

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of March 6, 2017

Present Members: Catherine Fisher, Antoinette Hartgerink, Bill Humm (Chair), David Meeker, Tim Moody, David Shay, Anne Tappan, Richard Weyrick, Emeritus Member

Ex Officio: Scott Bugbee, Select Board Representative

Visitors: Sharon Meeker, Lamprey River Advisory Committee; Kyle Pimental, Strafford Regional Planning Commission; Jason Pohopek, Land Surveyor

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on February 6, 2017, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance in the LCC account as of January 31, 2017, was \$12,984.56 composed of

LCC Funds	\$10,179.18
Dave Allan Fund	\$ 2,805.38

Education/Outreach: SPNHF, in support of its easement program, has offered to conduct public walks on its easements within the Town. C. Fisher will contact Lauren Kras to arrange a walk for Lee residents in the Maud Jones Memorial Forest and/or the Town Forest. A. Tappan began a discussion of public activities for the coming summer. She and C. Fisher will plan a schedule for programs such as **woodcock viewing** and **frog walks** as the season progresses.

Conservation Lands Management: C. Fisher has found a “trove” of **trash in the Town Forest**. It contains, among other items, old bicycles, tires, and a fire extinguisher as well as the indication of an old fire. She suggested that a work party to clear the site be scheduled for some time when the trail conditions improve. Pictures of the site will be posted in the E-Crier to inform the public of the illegality of the dumping and encourage proper care of the Forest and its trail system. B. Humm has been sent permit applications by Bio-Spray for spraying invasive species on **Town Forest, Rothwell Reserve, and The Joe Ford Wildlife Preserve**. After some discussion, it was agreed that he should sign the applications and so inform Bio-Spray. A. Tappan and C. Fisher met with Matt Tarr and some UNH students to discuss a project aimed at improving **woodcock habitat** on the Mills easement at **Little River Park**. The proposed project will be under the direction of Don Quigley and the students will be covered under the UNH liability program. Randy Stevens plans to spread the existing piles of loam at **Little River Park** and after seeding he will monitor the site to prevent another infestation of Japanese knotweed.

Powder Major’s Farm: SPNHF has closed on the purchase of the property although they have had to take out a “bridge mortgage” while seeking the balance of the purchase price. A public celebration is planned in June. B. Humm reported that the \$50,000 mitigation fee from the Lee Circle development can be applied to the purchase price of the property.

Landscaping at Little River Park: B. Humm, C. Fisher, and R. Weyrick will meet with the Recreation Commission on Tuesday, March 7, to discuss issues relating to tree plantings in the park.

Expiration of Terms: B. Humm reported that the terms on the Commission of Anne Tappan, Tim Moody, Amanda Gourgue, and David Meeker expire this year and urged their reapplication to serve another term.

OLD BUSINESS:

Property Development off Wednesday Hill Road: Jason Pohopek described a proposed wetland crossing on the 54 acre parcel which he believes eligible for a Minimal Impact Expedited Permit. The proposed crossing is 12’ wide over three 18” diameter culverts under 3 feet of gravel fill. He also discussed the variances the project requires. The septic system design is not yet complete. One design under consideration may require up to 2 feet of fill to meet current requirements. A visit to the site is scheduled for 1 PM, March 8. D. Shay moved and A. Tappan seconded:

Motion: The Conservation Commission supports the application for a Minimal Impact Expedited Permit for this crossing.

Passed: Unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Town Trails Mapping Project: Sharon Meeker reported on the activities of a group of the Town’s citizens who have worked to map some of the trails and proto-trails within the Town. This effort was stimulated by the plan for a system of trails along the Lamprey River corridor under development by the LRAC. She described the work of Matt Warner and Bob Woodward in developing GPS coordinates for the some of the trails in the Town. She volunteered to work with the Commission in mapping the Town’s trail systems and in educating the public on sustainable use of woodland trails. Kyle Pimental described and presented maps showing the status of the trail mapping efforts of SRPC. They are developing software for use in the spring that, in addition to spatial coordinates, will permit the mapping of some 20 different trail attributes. He emphasized that the information to be collected will be available for display in a variety of media including website and hard copy versions. He also stressed the need to identify those trails which should be noted for various special usage levels.

Next Meeting: April 3, 2017

Submitted By _____
David Meeker