Lee Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of July 3, 2017

Present Members: Catherine Fisher, Antoinette Hartgerink, Bill Humm (Chair), David Meeker, Anne Tappan
Alternate Member: Amanda Gourgue
Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on June 5, 2017, approved as written.
Updates and Announcements:
LCC Bank Balance: The balance in the Commission's account as of June 30, 2017, was $13,775.21 composed of

LCC Funds	$10,969.69
Dave Allan Fund	$ 2,805.52

Easement Monitoring: Monitoring visits were made to the Verrette, Brady, Hutton, and Blickle/Chisholm easements in June. Visits to the Lee Little River Reserve, Mills Little River Park, DeMeritt Hill Farm, Old Mill Reserve, and the Palmer/Brisard easements are scheduled for July. Julie Glover, Town Administrator, and Denise Duval, Town Secretary, suggested to B. Humm that the Commission provide pictures taken during the monitoring visits for inclusion in the E-Crier. In discussing this suggestion it was noted that there are several difficulties to be considered when publicizing easement properties. For example, the members conducting the visits seldom have a camera with them, most of the visits are on private property and are not, therefore, open to the public which the inclusion of the photos might imply, and the walks occasionally involve hazardous conditions which require considerable care. C. Fisher suggested that photos taken on Town-owned lands, rather than private lands, might be appropriate. It was decided that B. Humm would discuss the matter further with Julie and Denise.

Conservation Lands Management: B. Humm reported that there is still some progress on Jack Hall's Eagle Scout Trail Project at **Little River Reserve**. Randy Stevens and Peter Hoyt used a hired brush cutter to clear the underbrush from the old orchard in the **Town Forest**. The advisability of establishing an intermittent schedule for cutting in the area was discussed. It was noted that the schedule of cutting would have great influence on the resulting plant and wildlife population in the area. It was decided to evaluate the need for additional cutting on an annual basis. C. Fisher described the current condition of the **viewing platform** in the **Town Bog.** She feels that the situation could soon become dangerous. It was decided to reconsider this issue later in the summer when the water level is lower.

Education/Outreach: C. Fisher suggested a public guided walk on the Winder Property in September to illustrate methods for the control of invasive species. There was general agreement of the proposal.

OLD BUSINESS:

Japanese Knotweed Along Mast Road: B. Humm reported on correspondence with Brian Schutt, District Engineer for NH DOT, recommending the spraying of knotweed infestations along Mast Road (Route 155) and nearby locations.

NEW BUSINESS:

Possible Moose Plate Grant Application: A. Tappan suggested that removal of invasive species encroaching on the fields on the **Joe Ford Wildlife Reserve** might be a suitable project for a Moose Plate Grant. Various aspects of the project were discussed. The scope of the project is large, so the plan would be to start things now but not apply for support until 2018. C. Fisher supported continuing consideration of the project with a possible grant application in the coming year. It was decided that A. Tappan, with the support of the Commission, will continue to investigate the feasibility of such a project and present information at the August meeting for further discussion.

Planning for the Lee Fair: Several possible activities by the Commission for the September 9th fair were considered. C. Fisher stated that she "might" conduct another Treasure Hunt which had been very popular last year. It was noted that the invasive species display has always generated public interest. It was suggested that information about pollinator insects and the plants that support them would be of interest and importance to the public and is a possible activity for the 2018 Lee Fair. These matters will be discussed further at the August meeting.

Next Meeting: **August 1, 2017**

Submitted By _____
David Meeker