

## **Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of October 2, 2017**

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

**Alternate Members:** Amanda Gourgue

**Ex Officio:** Scott Bugbee, Select Board Representative

**Visitors:** Jon Harris

**Memorial:** The meeting began with a silent moment in which members acknowledged the death of **Richard “Dick” Weyrick** and remembered his many years of leadership and, always, unselfish and joyful service to the Conservation Commission and the Town of Lee.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held on September 5, 2017, approved as written.

### **Updates and Announcements:**

**LCC Bank Balance:** The balance in the Commission’s account as of August 31, 2017, was \$19,077.06 composed of

LCC Funds	\$16,271.27
Dave Allan Fund	\$ 2,805.79

**Easement Monitoring:** Monitoring visits were made to the Cox, Randall, Claridge/Woodall, Palmer/Brizzard, and Noble Farm easements. The only item of concern found was the dumping of excavated rock which encroaches upon the setback from the pond on the Noble Farm easement. B. Humm will discuss this situation with the land owner. Visits to the Ellis, Lee/Hartgerink, and Echo Ridge easements are planned for October.

**Conservation Lands Management:** The invasive plants on the **Town Forest** and the **Joe Ford Wildlife Reserve** have been sprayed by Bio-Spray. B. Humm will confirm that the Boy Scouts have constructed safe approaches to the bridge on the trail in the **Little River Preserve** before meeting again with the Heritage Commission.

**Coppal Farm Barn Extension:** A. Hartgerink met with John Hutton at the proposed site of construction and did not see any problem with the extension as designed. She will express this opinion to the ZBA and Caren Rossi when asked.

**Bedrock Gardens:** B. Humm has asked A. Hartgerink to meet with John Forti to discuss the plans for construction of a parking lot for Bedrock Gardens off High Road. S. Bugbee suggested that she also confer with Caren Rossi concerning other plans for expansion on the Gardens. C. Fisher volunteered to help assess the proposed projects.

**Substitute Contact Person:** D. Meeker will serve as Commission contact person during B; Humm’s visit to the island of Madagascar.

**Emerald Ash Borer:** The town has received notification from the UNH Cooperative Extension that the emerald ash borer has been found in Strafford County and the county has been designated as an EAB-quarantine area. B. Humm has received a packet of suggested actions and alerts.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Maud Jones Memorial Forest Interpretive Walk:** C. Fisher outlined the plans for the interpretive walk that she and Don Quigley will lead on October 7, beginning at 9 A.M.

**Moose Plate Grant Application:** A. Tappan discussed the advisability of applying for a Moose Plate Grant to address the invasive species problem on the Joe Ford Wildlife Reserve with Dea Brickner-Wood, an administrator of the grant program. It was suggested that the emphasis of such a proposal should be on habitat restoration as motivating the concern for invasive species removal. She and B. Humm have written letters to individuals and organizations which are believed to be interested and involved in the situation on the Reserve. Plans for a joint discussion of a possible project with the shareholders are under development.

**Town Fair Review:** In a discussion of the past Town Fair, C. Fisher said that she expressly liked the opportunity to meet newcomers to Lee and, perhaps, there should be a particular effort to make the Fair an important introduction to Lee for those recently moving into the town.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Dick Weyrick Memorial:** The Weyrick family would like to plant a tree in memory of Dick at a site where his effort in conservation, protection, and oversight was significant and have asked for suggestions as to the site. C. Fisher said that she considers a single tree as an insufficient memorial and perhaps naming a trail or something else more significant would be appropriate. After some discussion it was suggested the trail on the Ellis Reserve, where Dick played the major role in protection and development would be appropriate. In addition, it was felt that the naming of a tree in a prominent location in town should also be done.

**Payment to Bio-Spray:** Anne Tappan made a motion:

*Moved that the Commission pay Bio-Spray the sum of \$450 for work done on the Town Forest and Joe Ford Wildlife Reserve. Seconded by C. Fisher and passed unanimously.*

**Control of Invasive Species Introductory Walk:** C. Fisher will meet with the land owner, Mimi Winder, on October 25 to plan an early November event. A. Tappan noted that she and Catherine have sent email letters to those individuals who expressed interest in the control of invasive species at the Town Fair. She also stated that the list of New Hampshire invasive species has been updated and agreed to provide the members of the Commission with a link to the appropriate website.

**Trail Mapping Update:** D. Meeker reported on a meeting with Dick Weyrick concerning his work with Kyle Pimental of Strafford Regional Planning and other groups in mapping the trails on Town-owned property. Dick noted the interest in the local trail system by various groups and individuals in the Town. He suggested that a meeting be arranged with representatives of the Conservation and Recreation Commissions and other interested individuals in the town. B. Humm suggested that current efforts in posting should be limited to those trails that are completely or nearly completely mapped. He agreed to contact Kyle Pimental and discuss these issues with him.

**Next Meeting: November 6, 2017**

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_  
David Meeker