

## **Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of May 7, 2018**

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

**Alternate Members:** Amanda Gourgue

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held on April 2, 2018, approved as written.

### **Updates and Announcements:**

**Reports:** A. Hartgerink reported that Sean McGann did not appear at the April 18 ZBA meeting, so his request for a special exception was not considered.

**Easement Monitoring:** C. Fisher and A. Hartgerink monitored Kelsey, Short, Garrity, and Riverside Farm easements. C. Fisher, A. Hargerink and B. Humm monitored Aldag, Crosby and Barth easements. Nothing of concern was noted on any of these properties. In the coming month, visits are planned to James Farm (9), Sandborn (23), and Jenkins/Grumbling (30th).

**Education/Outreach:** C. Fisher reported on two frog walks, one held on the evening of April 13 and the other on the morning of April 14. Weather conditions were fine for both walks and participants (28 and 15, respectively) had an enjoyable outing while being able to observe frog and salamander eggs and learning about vernal pools. C. Fisher also reported on the Earth Day walk organized by the Oyster River Parents of Pre-Schoolers which she led on April 21. Grandparents, parents and children, 32 in all, enjoyed a nature walk in the Town Forest and a vernal pool visit. A. Tappan reported an excellent woodcock event held on April 27 in conjunction with NH Audubon. Several woodcock were observed and their aerial displays enjoyed by 16 participants.

**Conservation Lands Management:** B. Humm reported that the Select Board had discussed receipt of an Intent to Cut notice from a resident with plans to harvest 40 acres of timber on a property abutting the Town Forest. With an anticipated start date of April 25, B. Humm suggested having a surveyor do some marking of the boundary between the two properties. B. Humm also suggested sending a letter to the owner expressing the Commission's concerns for the border.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Nominations for CC officers:** B. Humm was nominated to serve as Chair and D. Meeker nominated to serve as Secretary/Treasurer for the coming year.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Unclassified lands - 64 Tamarack Rd:** This 2.88 acre parcel has been classified as unbuildable. B. Humm advised doing a site walk before recommending that the Select Board put the parcel on the market. C. Fisher suggested the visit be done on Wed., May 9 following easement monitoring at James Farm.

**Dick Weyrick memorial:** C. Fisher reported that the Earth Day tree-planting memorial was a well-attended and wonderful gathering. She also reported that she attended the May 7 Select Board meeting to request, at the Weyrick family's behest, permission to have Dick's ashes buried beneath the white pine planted during the memorial and to have an engraved granite marker and a small bench placed at the site. Permission for all three requests was approved by the board.

**Joe Ford Wildlife Sanctuary:** A. Tappan reported no new developments, although work continues on the management plan.

**Trail Mapping Update:** T. Moody reported that mapping of both the Town Forest trail system and the loop trail at Maude Jones Memorial Forest has been completed. A link can be placed on the town's website so that folks can access the maps on the OpenStreetMap website. In response to a query by B. Humm, T. Moody thought that the contrast in the maps could be increased to make them more easily read. A discussion followed as to whether certain activities, such as trail biking and horseback riding, be prohibited on the trails and including such information with the maps. It was decided that the Recreation Commission should be involved in any decisions about possible prohibitions.

**Retirement Gift for Randy Stevens:** C. Fisher suggested the purchase of a gift or gift card in recognition of the great help and hard work Randy Stevens has done in assisting the commission on several projects.

**Next Meeting: June 4, 2018**

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine Fisher