

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of October 15, 2018

Present Members: Catherine Fisher, Amanda Gourgue, Bill Humm (Chair), David Shay, Anne Tappan

Ex Officio: Scott Bugbee, Select Board Representative

Visitors: Molly Darling, Robin Wunderlich, Deb Sugerma

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on September 4, 2018, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance of the Commission's account as of September 30 was \$18,782.67 composed of

LCC Funds	\$15,971.81
Dave Allen Fund	\$ 2,810.86

Alternate Commission Member: Deb Sugerma is interested in becoming an alternate member of the Commission. She has taught outdoor education at Unity College, is a SPNHF Land Steward at the Powder Major Forest and a member of SELT, and is interested in conservation issues.

Easement Monitoring: All conservation easements have been completed with the exception of Lee/Hartgerink which A. Hartgerink and C. Fisher will complete in November, when the vegetation isn't so lush.

Gift from Mast Way School PTO: A gift of \$250.00, to be used towards costs of putting the 7-acre Town Forest parcel under conservation easement, was donated to the Commission by the Mast Way School PTO.

Conservation Lands Management:

Robin Wunderlich and Molly Darling made a presentation proposing to install and maintain three dog waste stations at Town Forest trailheads. They are to be located at the church/library intersection, Steven's field, and behind the baseball field beside Mast Way School. The stations will be 18" wide, have bag dispensers, and would be emptied once a week. A 16"x10" sign on the waste receptacle would state that the stations are maintained by "Take 5 Dog Care". For this proposal to go forward, Select Board approval is required and a presentation before the Board is planned for November.

Herbicide application at Joe Ford Wildlife Sanctuary: A. Tappan reported that she met with the Biospray agent and treated a patch of Japanese knotweed behind the fence, as well as several small clumps and scattered plants. Additional small patches were found and treated on both sides of Garrity Road (the Sanctuary side and the side abutting Maude Jones Memorial Forest). Another large patch is further along on Garrity Road, but as this is along the power line right of way, it may be that treatment will be done by NH Electric Coop.

Herbicide application at Rothwell Reserve: A. Tappan reported that she and the Biospray agent found very little to be treated. The invasive plants along the Reserve side of the road are fairly well controlled, although there are a few large plants that require cutting. Along the trail that runs between the Reserve and the abutter to the west, very few burning bush, buckthorns and bittersweet were found; there are, however, several mature invasive species which were too large to treat and should be cut in the spring. She noted that across 152, along the Lamprey River, the invasive plant problem is serious, and should be addressed. She suggested reaching out to Lamprey River Advisory Committee and perhaps contacting Doug Cygan (Invasive Species Coordinator, NH Dept. Agric.) to see if he could make a site visit and provide advice on cutting the invasives and/or spraying to control them. B. Humm will contact him to see if a meeting can be arranged.

Herbicide application at Town Forest orchard: Biospray had just received the permit at the time of this meeting.

Little River Park invasive plants: A Tappan reported that the black locusts on the slope overlooking the woodcock displaying grounds can be cut using hand tools. Other black locusts around the grounds are too big to spray. With volunteer helpers, she estimates it will take several sessions to knock back the locusts. Any volunteers will need to fill out a volunteer consent form on site.

Trail Maintenance Projects: C. Fisher reported that there are three trails that require maintenance work. The James Farm loop trail, which was monitored and flagged in June, needs to be cleared, blazed and reconfigured in some wet areas. The Ellis Oyster River Reserve also needs considerable work done to clear and re-blaze the trail there. Due to a stream crossing that has no bridge and is muddy year-round, the trail at Little River Park which ends at a meander segment of the Little River can no longer be followed to its terminus at the river; a make-do bridge made of bits of planking and logs is slippery and unsafe.

OLD BUSINESS:

Joe Ford Wildlife Sanctuary: A. Tappan reported that the surveying by Adam Fogg's company (Atlantic Survey) had been completed. B. Humm will request additional sight line flagging around the house and from the road to Laynes Brook. She suggests setting up some work sessions in the field and also at the commission office to work through some of the details of the management project. She will send an email to commission members to set up a meeting. B. Humm noted that this must be publicly noticed.

Variance for Development of Two Commercial Lots on Rte. 125: A. Tappan reported that Dave Garvey went before the ZBA in mid Sept. asking for a variance for the 200 ft wetland crossing driveway. Approval was granted with the understanding that the boundary with the neighboring property be clearly marked. A. Tappan also reported that on Sept. 25, she met in the Commission's office with D. Garvey, Marc Jacobs, and Caren Rossi to discuss development alternatives and to provide them with information regarding best practices for protecting the vernal pools on the properties.

Lee Fair: C. Fisher reported that there was quite a lot of interest shown in the new display she organized on pollinators. Of particular interest was the display of monarch larvae and chrysalises.

Town Center Vision Committee: A. Tappan reported that she met with the architect and went over the information that C. Fisher, B. Humm and she put together regarding the commission's space needs. She reported that because real estate in the new building will be considerably more expensive than that in an existing building, all Town committees and commissions will work out of the Tax Collector/Town Clerk Office, and that the current Town Office will become the Town's meeting space.

NEW BUSINESS:

Variance at Reinhold Residence, 54 Northside Road: R. Wunderlich presented plans to add a second floor extension at the residence which is situated 84' from the Wheelwright Pond. Everything added will be above the existing structure and will not extend beyond what currently exists. C. Fisher will arrange a site visit with Antoinette Hartgerink.

Site Visit to the Lilyestrom residence at 19 Caldwell Ln: C. Fisher reported that she and A. Hartgerink met with Ben Lilyestrom to provide input on a proposed addition to his residence which overlooks Wheelwright Pond. As the addition is a second floor deck that doesn't project as far as an existing deck on the floor directly below, they found no issues with the project. A. Hartgerink recommended laying down a thick layer of crushed stone to mitigate runoff from the roof.

NHACC Annual Meeting & Conference: This will be held on Nov. 3 at Pembroke Academy. B. Humm reported that he had received a request for membership dues in the amount of \$325.00. The Commission voted unanimously to pay the membership dues.

Protective Fencing for Weyrick chestnuts: B. Humm reported that, as there has been some considerable deer browsing on the new chestnuts planted as part of Dick Weyrick's memorial, protective fencing was called for. He and Dick had done similar fencing six or seven years ago after the first chestnuts in the grove were planted, and in that instance, netting was wrapped around six foot stakes forming a three-sided structure. B. Humm has looked into costs, and reported that Don Quigley has contacted him about assisting with this.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 12, 2018

Submitted by _____
Catherine Fisher