

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of November 12, 2018

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

Visitor: Dawn Genes

Ex Officio: Scott Bugbee, Select Board Representative

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on October 15, 2018, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance of the Commission's account as of November 12 was \$18,459.95 composed of

LCC Funds:	\$15,649.09
Dave Allen Fund	\$ 2,810.86

Reports:

Variance for Development of Two Commercial Lots on Rte. 125: A. Tappan reported that at the Planning Board Meeting the application to subdivide the Garvey parcel was tabled until Dec. 13. 250 feet of frontage is required, and while the proposed northern lot is over 250 feet, it is divided into two sections by an existing lot. Hence the Town's lawyer must determine whether the parcel meets the required frontage. Also discussed at the PB meeting was the possibility that there may be slope issues with the parcel. Though the property is in the commercial zone, A. Tappan suggested that it is well suited for conservation. B. Humm observed that the value of the property must be determined and suggested that Caren Rossi would have that information. A. Tappan mentioned the NRCS' Wetland Reserve Program as a possible means to conserving the property, but as SELT holds the easement on the abutting Kennard property, she suggested this as a stronger candidate for putting the property under easement. A. Tappan will contact Jeremy Lougee at SELT.

Site Visit to Reinhold property, 54 Northside Rd.: C. Fisher reported that she and Antoinette Hartgerink met with Robin Wunderlich to view proposed changes to the Reinhold house on Wheelwright Pond. The structure is set back 100' from the waterfront with a good amount of vegetation between the house and the water. The proposed changes will not decrease the distance from the house to the shoreline nor will the changes result in additional impervious surfaces. The pitch of the roof will increase, but the homeowner currently has a good layer of crushed stone to intercept roof runoff and this will remain in place. No concerns were found with the proposed changes to the structure.

Education/Outreach: C. Fisher reported that she'd had a request to hold snowshoeing nature walk this winter. Depending upon snow conditions, she hopes to lead this walk in January or February.

Conservation Lands Management:

Proposed Dog Waste Stations at Town Forest Trailheads: The Select Board approved the proposal to have the three waste stations installed by Take 5. A Memorandum of Understanding must be agreed to and signed by both Robin Wunderlich, Molly Darling and members of the Select Board. Before the stations are put in place, B. Humm, C. Fisher and R. Wunderlich will place posts with small flags on them, to give a good idea of where the stations will be placed.

The site for the station near the Historical Society is currently owned by the church and that installation must wait until sale of the property is completed.

Herbicide Applications

Town Forest old orchard: Herbicides were applied in late October. These were done using a hose from a van and gave a really thorough application. How effective it was won't be evident until next year.

Additional projects: Discussing various areas where invasive non-native plants are a problem (i.e. the dense stand of buckthorn growing along the river on Wadleigh Falls Rd., the black locusts at Little River Park, and the autumn olive at the library), A. Tappan proposed that it might be useful to invite Steve Bullek, who has an herbicide applicator's license, to a CC meeting to get his ideas about how these problem areas might be addressed. B. Humm noted that, with the exception of roadside areas, he would need to get a permit for each project on town-owned land. D. Genes inquired about the stand of knotweed at Wadleigh Falls which had been treated some years ago. B. Humm noted that, given the proximity of the Lamprey, this, too would need a special state permit. S. Bugbee noted that any project involving Steve Bullek would require prior approval of the BOS. D. Genes suggested that, even if we don't have an immediate project that S. Bullek might be able to help with, it would be useful to invite him to a meeting simply as a way to introduce him to the members of the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Recommendations to BOS for CC membership as Alternates: A. Tappan moved, and C. Fisher seconded that Deb Sugerman and Dawn Genes be approved as alternates to the Conservation Commission. B. Humm will notify Denise Duval.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: Will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at Flag Hill. Those wishing to attend must notify Denise Duval as space is limited.

Barry Conservation 4-H Camp for 2019: B. Humm reported that he'd heard from Laura Gund who'd received an email from the Barry Camp administrator informing her that the camp will soon be taking applications from communities supporting campers. L. Gund knows of one camper who has expressed interest. Members discussed whether the LCC is interested in sponsoring a second camper. It was decided that a write up would be placed in the E-Crier, running until January. At that time, based on the response to the write up, a decision will be made.

OLD BUSINESS

Joe Ford Wildlife Sanctuary: A. Tappan reported that, with the exception of the eastern line along the back of the house lot, all survey lines have been flagged. The blackberries are too thick to flag the line at the house lot and that will be done after Chuck Cox mows the area. Homeowners have been informed and are pleased to have this area mowed.

B. Humm reported that he attempted to get in touch with the cemetery trustees to arrange a site visit to the Hoitt cemetery for Nov. 14 at 3:30; Don Quigley will also attend to advise on tree cutting. There are five big pines growing in the cemetery; the pines on the adjacent town-owned property, while not overly large, do provide a buffer that protects the big cemetery pines.

A. Tappan is working on organizing work sessions and informative sessions to look at the field, and documents, respectively.

Protective Fencing for Weyrick Chestnuts: B. Humm reported that Don Quigley provided all the ideas and materials to install 4' tall fencing cylinders and supporting steel stakes. The work was completed in half an hour, and the fencing itself is unobtrusive.

Trail Mapping Update: T. Moody reported that most of the mapping has been completed. He would like to do parts of the Town Forest trail system again and include some pictures, but the overall large loop, which encompasses both the red and yellow trails is now available on AllTrails, along with The Maude Jones Memorial Forest loop trail and the River and Ridge trails at Little River Park. Anyone may add pictures to the information accompanying each trail map. It will be possible to provide link to these maps on the town website.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 3

Submitted by _____
Catherine Fisher