

## **Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of December 3, 2018**

**Present Members:** Catherine Fisher, Amanda Gourgue, Antionette Hartgerink, Bill Humm (Chair), Dave Shay, Anne Tappan

**Alternate Members:** Dawn Genes, Deb Sugerman

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes of November 12, 2018 approved as written.

### **Updates and Announcements:**

**Newly Appointed Alternate Members:** B. Humm welcomed alternate members Dawn Genes and Deb Sugerman to the Commission.

**LCC Bank Balance:** Treasurer A. Gourgue reported that she is working on determining how to disperse the interest between LCC Funds and the Dave Allan Fund. The balance in the Commission's account currently stands at \$15,915.05.

### **Reports:**

**Variance for Development of Two Commercial Lots on Rt. 125:** A. Tappan reported that Caren Rossi informed her that the Garvey applications are on hold indefinitely. She also reported that she has sent maps of the property to Jeremy Lougee at SELT and will meet with him on December 12 to discuss options for protecting the property.

**Education/Outreach:** C. Fisher reported that she had been contacted by Malin Clyde (UNH Coop. Ext.) regarding possible sites to hold a informational/training session related to rabbits. The ideal site would feature nearby parking, a short walk, and habitat suitable for rabbits of any species. C. Fisher provided her with information about sites in the Town Forest, Old Mill Reserve and Lee 5 Corners, also informed her of the work being done to create suitable habitat for New England cottontail in the latter two sites, and requested that, should the colleague decide that one of these sites is suitable for the proposed session, a meeting with the CC be arranged.

### **Conservation Lands Management:**

**Proposed Dog Waste Stations at Town Forest Trailheads:** B. Humm reported that there have been no new developments since a Memorandum of Understanding was sent to Robin Wunderlich and Molly Darling to be signed. C. Fisher reported that she had sent them a query the week of November 4, but had had no reply. She will contact Julie Glover to see if the MOU has been signed, and will contact R. Wunderlich asking what plans there are for installing the stations.

**Dead Trees Along Rim Trail in Little River Park:** B. Humm reported that Scott Bugbee contacted him regarding a query from a LRP abutter who is concerned about several dead and potentially dangerous trees along the Rim Trail. As the Rim Trail is not on land protected by conservation easement, its maintenance falls under the purview of the Rec. Com., per a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Recreation Commission and the LCC. S. Bugbee has forwarded the query to Larry Kindberg.

**Trailhead from Library to Town Forest:** A. Tappan reported that at the most recent Town Center Vision Committee meeting it was noted that with the expanded library and parking lot, a new location for the trailhead from the library to the Town Forest may be required.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Strafford Regional Planning Commission - Possible Change in Membership:** B. Humm reported that Caren Rossi testified before the Advisory Budget Committee that she is considering not renewing the Town's membership with SRPC. Currently membership dues are \$5,000.00 and paid for by the

Planning and Zoning Boards. She has been dissatisfied by the lack of funding provided for various Town projects, and feels it would be cheaper to pay SRPC on an as-needed basis. Should this route be taken, the CC may need to pay for services such as GIS capability and co-occurrence map updates, though it is possible some of these services may be provided without charge. B. Humm will talk with C. Rossi to get more information regarding possible ramifications.

**Invitation to Steve Bullek:** As S. Bullek has a State herbicide applicator's license this may provide an avenue by which to facilitate, with BOS approval, treating areas where the CC has been working to eradicate non-native invasive plants. An invitation to discuss this project and to introduce CC members to Mr. Bullek will be extended in January or February.

**Possible Expansion of Swap Shop Parking Area:** B. Humm reported that S. Bullek recently spoke to the BOS regarding his concerns about the lack of parking at the the Swap Shop and the dangers of crossing traffic exiting the transfer station; he proposed enlarging the paved area adjacent to the swap shop by moving he chain link fence that runs between the transfer station and the town forest, so that the fence is further away from the transfer station. Because of concerns that the fence not encroach on the Town Forest trail, B. Humm requested a site visit with S. Bullek and CC members.

**Lamprey River Watershed Assoc.:** D. Genes reported that the Lamprey River Watershed Assoc. has hired Cris Blackstone has their new Executive Director.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Barry Conservation 4-H Camp:** B. Humm reported that Laura Gund had an article in last week's E-Crier. Unfortunately, the camp Director had sent her information for the 2018 schedule rather than 2019. The Director sent B. Humm an email correcting that mistake, which will be forwarded to L. Gund, Denise Duval and the CC.

**Joe Ford Wildlife Sanctuary:** A. Tappan reported that she, B. Humm and Don Quigley visited the JFWS to discuss the trees in and around the Hoitt cemetery. D. Quigley provided information regarding buffer delineation and recommended protection from the northeast for existing trees on the property that will be left standing.

She will be sending information to abutters to the property. Along with a letter describing the project, she will include brochures from NH Fish and Game.

She and Ted Kendziora met and resolved discrepancies in field areas; T. Kendziora will be sending updated maps. Also discussed at their meeting was the timeline. There is still a great deal of work to be accomplished on this project, and it likely will not be completed until winter of 2019.

**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner:** Reminder that those planning to attend need to register with D. Duval.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine Fisher