

**Lee Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of May 31, 2022**

Present members: Dawn Genes (Chair), Amanda Gourgue (Treasurer), Mimi Winder, Catherine Fisher, Mark Nelson, Dave Shay, Deb Sugerman, Anne Tappan

Emeritus Member: Bill Humm

Select Board (BOS) Representative: Scott Bugbee (arrived 2nd half)

Others present: Tom Hooper, Katy Raynor and Drew Cross; Dennis Regan and Chris Regan

Approval of Minutes of April 26 Meeting: A. Tappan moved to accept, as written, D. Sugerman seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by Lee Conservation Commission (LCC) members.

Approval of Minutes of Site Visit to Little River Park (LRP)/Granger and Mills parcels: C. Fisher moved to accept with the addition of M. Winder to the list of LCC members attending; A. Tappan seconded and the motion was unanimously approved by LCC.

May 10 Site Visit to 10 Layne Drive, Wheelwright Pond: A. Tappan will write minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Following the 4/26 meeting, A. Gourgue submitted two expense reports for membership to American Chestnut Foundation (\$40) and New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association (NHTOA) (\$30). Current balances are:

David Allan Fund Account	\$2,686.69
LCC Account	\$2,325.20
Total of	\$5,011.89

OLD BUSINESS

Education/Outreach:

Social Media: A. Gourgue reported outcomes from our Facebook (FB) page: April 30th - May 27th.
People Reached 6,236 (down 22%)
Post Engagements 1,180 (down 20%)
Page Likes 3 (down 77% - we have 547 page likes)

Our most popular post over the past month was from May 21st, which was the post about resting bees. It was seen by 2,511 people, 82 post clicks, and 145 reactions, comments & shares.

Articles for E-Crier/FB: C. Fisher reported that she had written four nature articles.

Events Held:

May 5, Sunrise/Sunset Club Walk Town Forest (TF): C. Fisher reported that approximately 20 people attended the walk. A great time was had by all and a date was made for another walk this summer.

Upcoming Events:

June 25, Moth Night LRP: C. Fisher reported that she had posted an article in the E-Crier, which will run until the event is held. A. Gourgue asked that the information be forwarded to her so that she can post it on the LCC FB page. In response to A. Tappan's query about whether any help was needed setting up, C. Fisher reported that there seemed to be plenty of people to get the event ready, but that anyone was welcome to come and help.

Easement Monitoring: D. Shay reported the following properties monitored in April and May: Barth and Crosbie (4/27); Grumbling and Jenkins (5/11); Brady (5/18); In place of monitoring Lee Little River and Mills Little River Park scheduled for 5/25, the Woodall, Hutton, and DeMeritt Hill Farm easements were monitored with Conservation Land Stewardship Program (LCIP) stewardship specialist, Charlotte Harding. Sanborn (5/7) was cancelled due to scheduling conflict with land owners. This will be rescheduled.

No issues were noted on any of the properties monitored during this period.

Monitoring visits scheduled for June and July: Kelsey (6/1); McLean and Quigley (6/15), Randy Stevens and Rick Stevens (6/22); Henry (6/29); Cox (7/6); James Farm (7/13); DeMerritt Hill Farm (7/20); Ellis Oyster River (7/27); Lee 5 Corners/Ford (6/3) will be monitored by SELT. A. Tappan will attend, other CC members are welcome.

Updates of Work Groups:

Invasives working group: A. Tappan reported that Extreme Networks (EN) participated in a garlic mustard pull at LRP on May 10. Five members of EN, and CC members A. Tappan and M. Winder participated. Twenty bags of garlic mustard were collected! Prior to the event, D. Sugerman, A. Tappan, M. Winder and Lee Trails Committee (LTC) member Paul McComiskey, cut black locust in preparation for this project.

Updates on Town Conservation Lands:

Lee Trails Committee: D. Sugarman reported on the following:

Trail work days

April 30: Maud Jones Memorial Forest (MJMF): 4 volunteers plus LTC

May 1: Town Forest: 5 volunteers plus LTC

All areas cleaned up and ready to go for the summer season

Trail Tales are up in the TF behind the library and on the Forest Trail at LRP

Grants Submitted: American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) had 3,200 applications, American Trails Foundations (ATF) had 291 applications for \$50,000 and 7 grants in total were awarded. Neither grant was awarded to CC.

Bridge work

LRP - D. Sugerman reported that Suzanne Petersen from the Lamprey River Advisory Committee (LRAC) requested pictures of the bridge building process. Wood has been delivered, will be cut this week and hauled to site on Saturday. The bridge will be built June 6-8. LCC members are welcome to participate.

Town Forest bridge - Completion work days are scheduled for Saturday June 25 and June 27-29.

Wood has been delivered, will be cut this week and hauled to the site.

Comments to Other Agencies/Boards:

Coppal House Farm - Roof Runoff: May 25 site visit with Matt Larkin, District Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); C. Harding, Stewardship Specialist, LCIP; John and Carol Hutton; C. Fisher, D. Genes and D. Shay. A motion was made to support the drainage project, to be done according to NRCS specifications. D. Shay moved to accept, seconded by D. Sugerman. All approved. A. Tappan and D. Genes will draft a letter for the ZBA.

Proposed car Wash at Lee Traffic Circle: ZBA approved the variances. The petitioner's next step is to present the proposal to the planning board with CC recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Announcements: Dawn Genes shared information for New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission (NHACC) Training; Southeast Land Trust (SELT) New Headquarters celebration 6/11.

SELT 2022 Dues: D. Genes brought a request to pay SELT dues in the amount of \$300. D. Sugerman moved to accept, C. Fisher seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by LCC.

Variance Requests:

Layne Drive on Wheelwright Pond: Owner/Applicant Tom Hooper was present. His proposal was reviewed with insights gained from the May 10 site visit. It was suggested that Mr. Hooper provide the ZBA with a simpler site map to include clear setback information. In addition, it was suggested that he clarify, for the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), plans for tree removal and the addition of native planting. The CC supports the proposed project, with recommendations, to be forwarded to the ZBA for a hearing.

14 Tuttle Road, Proposed Little River Equine Bridge: K. Raynor and D. Cross discussed their plans to build an 8' x 50' bridge to cross Little River to support horses and a small tractor. D. Shay suggested they research submitting a Permit by Notification to NHDES. He will forward them a link to this information. A site visit is planned for Wednesday, June 8 at 9am.

TF Trailhead Parking Area Improvement Proposal: D. Regan and C. Regan (LTC) presented a plan to install a split rail fence at the trail head to the town forest and athletic field area next to Mast Way School and Recycling Center Road. They identified safety concerns with parking and access to the porta potty. The 30' x 24' fence cost estimate is \$1100 for materials; \$800 labor and would provide parking for up to five cars. There was a discussion of the possibility of installing a temporary partition to determine the efficacy of this plan. The CC supports efforts to find a solution to the parking and safety issues at this location.

Email for CC/public interaction: There was brief discussion of email strategies for CC/public communication. This will need further research.

Election of Officers: D. Genes called for a vote. The officers were unanimously approved as follows:

D. Genes, Chair
A. Gourgue, Treasurer
M. Winder, Secretary

Adjourn: 6pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Submitted by: _____
MimiWinder

