

Lee Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of March 21, 2023
Lee, NH Safety Complex, 5PM

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

Alternate member: Laurel Cox

Emeritus: Bill Humm

Select Board Representative: Scott Bugbee

Motion: to approve the Minutes of February 21 Meeting: D. Shay moved to accept, C. Fisher seconded; the motion was unanimously approved by the Lee Conservation Commission (LCC).

Treasurers/Social Media/Monitoring: A. Gourgue submitted via email. Report attached.

- 2023 Monitoring starts Saturday April 1.

Education and Outreach: C. Fisher submitted via email. Report attached.

PB/ZBA/ Invasives projects A. Tappan submitted via email. Report attached.

Lee Trails Committee: D. Sugerman submitted via email. Report attached.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Forest Survey: New bids were received from Landry Surveying. The cost was much more realistic for our budget. D. Sugerman contacted Society for the Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF), the easement holder requesting some cost sharing. They are not willing to help with the cost of a survey.

Motion: To accept Landry Survey proposal for the Westerly portion of the TF from Wheelwright Pond south, as shown in the attached map. Not to exceed \$4,000. C. Fisher moved to accept, D. Shay seconded; the motion was unanimously approved by the LCC.

NEW BUSINESS

White Pine will conduct a Guided Nature Walk at Little River Park (LRP) in partnership with LCC on April 15, 2023 from 10am – 12pm. Information and registration information can be found at their website and will be posted on the eCrier.

Town Trails:

- **New Trail at LRP:** D. Sugerman will present a proposal for a new trail at the next meeting. A site visit will be scheduled for a date after the presentation.
- **Lee Trails Committee (LTR) project procedure:** A. Tappan requested clarification of procedures for LTC special projects. There was a brief discussion of LTC special projects, no decision was made. It was suggested that this be a topic for a future meeting. The LTC prospectus was shared for members to review.

- **Leaf Blowers on Town Trails:** While the LTC does not use leaf blowers in their trail work, it was suggested that the use of leaf blowers be avoided on the town trails as usage can present problems for plants and wildlife.

Lamprey River Canoe Launch:

- Invasive treatment at the canoe launch will be scheduled for late May. A. Tappan will coordinate this effort.
- Lamprey River Advisory Committee and the Lee Historical Society plan to erect a kiosk by the Lamprey River Canoe Launch site. They would like suggestions from the LCC on a location for placement of the kiosk.

Joe Ford Property tree damage: A. Tappan noted that there has been a lot of tree damage and downed trees on the Joe Ford Property due to an ice storm. This may affect mowing of the property. It was suggested that the LCC perform a site walk to assess the damage and evaluate possible actions. A site walk will be scheduled when weather permits.

Motion: To approve invoice from Tuckaway Farm, LLC for mowing at Joe Ford, not to exceed \$300. C. Fisher moved to accept, D. Shay seconded; the motion was unanimously approved by LCC.

Workday/Activity planning: S. Bugbee clarified the procedure for workday planning. The Town Administrator, Andy Robertson and Assistant, Denise Duval, should be informed prior to any regular invasive pulling performed under the guidance of the Conservation Commission. An email or phone call is sufficient for notification. If volunteers are involved, a release form needs to be completed prior to the start of the activity.

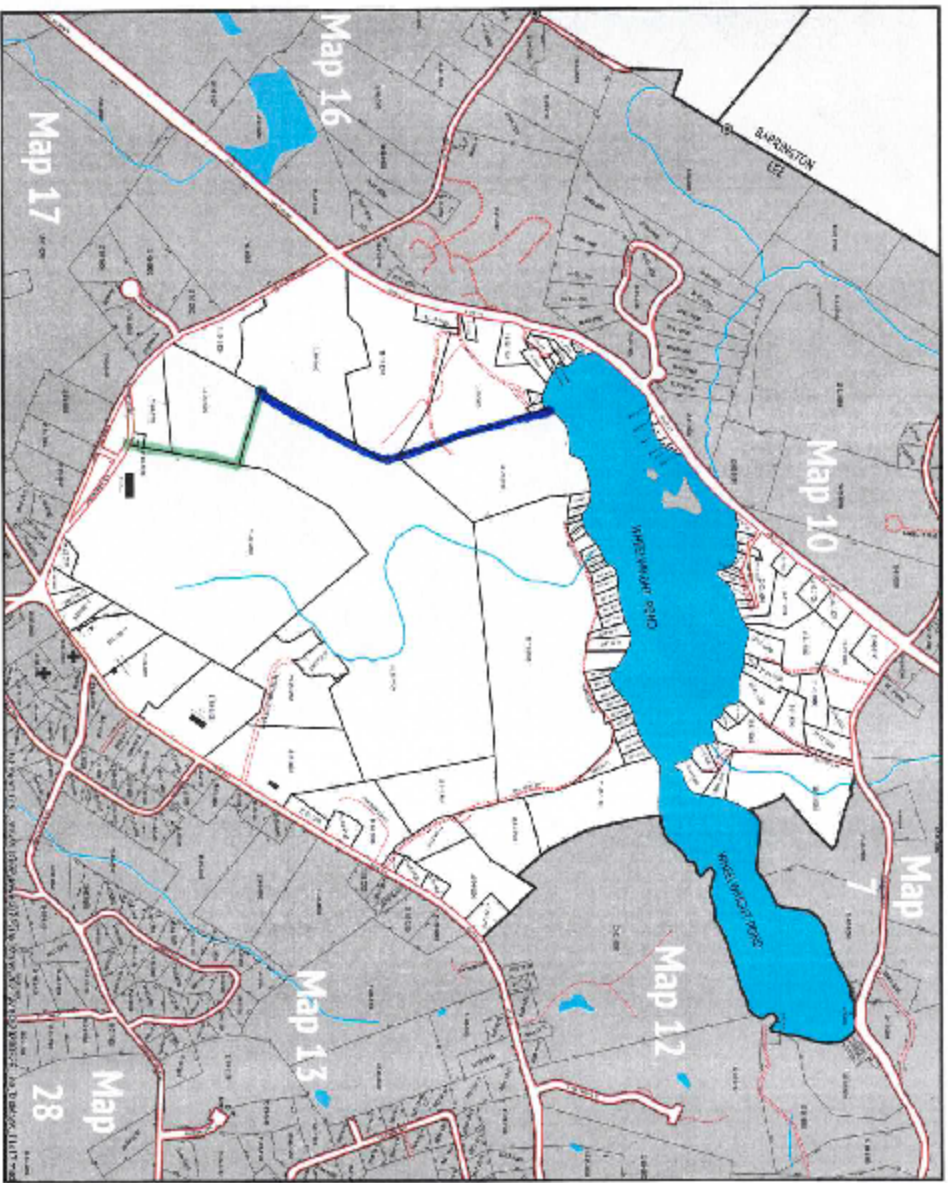
Intent to Cut: An intent to cut notice at Darby Field was presented to the LCC. It was determined that this is not within the purview of the LCC.

NH Land Trust Coalition Workshop 2 February: Laurel Cox attended this workshop on land trust management with an expanded view of land conservation needs particularly affordable housing and community solar installations.

Adjourn: 6:13 pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 5pm

Submitted by: _____
MimiWinder



Map 11

TAX PARCELS MAP
LEE
NEW HAMPSHIRE



Legend

- Parcel - Current Map Sheet
- Parcel - Adjacent Map Sheet
- Contour
- Subdividing
- Easement
- Right-of-Way - Easement
- Right-of-Way - Easement
- Lakes and Ponds

This map is a simplified version of the original map. It is not intended to be used for legal purposes. For more information, please contact the Lee Planning Department. The map is a simplified version of the original map. It is not intended to be used for legal purposes. For more information, please contact the Lee Planning Department.

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Lee Conservation Commission (LCC)
Education/Outreach Report for Meeting of March 21, 2023
Submitted by: Catherine Fisher

Activity since meeting of February 21, 2023

Articles: Three Nature Articles (Deer Beds in Winter, Weasels Parts I and II) were written and posted on the LCC Facebook (FB) page and the NeighborLee FB page. Two of the articles have also appeared in the Lee E-Crier (the 3rd article will be in the E-Crier that will be published on March 24.

An Announcement regarding upcoming Frog Walks was written and appeared in the E-Crier on March 17. It will continue to run until the frogs emerge and dates for the walks can be set.

A brief write up about the Lee Library after school Nature Walk was written, with accompanying photographs. This was posted on the LCC and NeighborLee FB pages, and will appear in the March 24 E-Crier.

Nature Walks:

Lee Library:

March 9 Preschool Nature Walk: 7 adults and 8 children attended this walk - we had beautiful weather and were treated to prolonged and excellent looks at a red-shouldered hawk (it was a most cooperative raptor), springtails, and lots of tracks.

March 16 After school Nature Walk: This was so much fun. As the nor'easter earlier in the week had gifted us with lots of snow, which subsequent warm temperatures made perfectly sticky, the children learned the art of using snow to sculpt faces on trees and also made small snow people perched on stumps, logs, and hollows. The time flew by.

Sunrise/Sunset Club: An April 19 walk is scheduled. The group will meet at 9:30 at one of the TF trailheads and finish at 11:30

Frog Walks:

These will likely occur within the next few weeks. The frogs often don't wait until all the snow is gone. In the past I've done three of these - two daytime and an evening. I may limit it to two walks, one in the evening and one on a weekend morning. The time is dependent on when the frogs emerge, but an article will be submitted to the Lee E-Crier and our FB page, letting folks know that frog walks are coming.

Bedrock Gardens (BG): Phone conference with Roanne Robbins, educator at BG, on March 10. We will meet at Bedrock in May (date tba) to walk the grounds and plan event(s) for Lee Day at BG sometime in May. She's bringing a picnic, which is lovely.

Lee Trails Committee Report
3.21.23

LTC Website

- Up and running!
- Each area Includes history, trail descriptions and map
- We continue to work on additional information

Trail projects

- Kiosks
 - Wood donated by Kemps
 - Started working on cutting and staining wood
- Bench
 - Money for bench at MJMF donated by Charlotte Hitchcock (\$100)
 - We will build and place this spring
- LRP Ridge Trail addition
 - Approved by the BOS
 - We will build this spring/summer
- Work Day possible dates: 4.22.23, 5.6.23, 5.20.23

March 21, 2023 – Treasurer/Social Media report

Treasurer's Report

David Allan Fund Account \$2,703.08

LCC Account \$14,714.84

Total of \$17,417.92

We had two transactions since our last meeting...

3/4/23 LCHIP Stewardship Grant +\$900.00

3/14/2023 Catherine Fisher Reimbursement -\$64.55

Social Media Report

February 20th - March 19th

People Reached 6,039

Post Engagements 1,900

Page Likes 2

The post with the most reach was from March 6th and it was deer beds in winter by Catherine. It reached 3,400 people with 77 post clicks, reactions, 14 comments, and 8 shares. Great job, Catherine!

Catherine wanted me to mention that I encourage everyone to post on FB. She didn't realize that Deb posts on Tuesdays and thought the Commission would be interested in knowing that. She has started posting on Mondays. I am always here to help anyone post or schedule a post. If you are interested, please let me know and I can set you up. ;) More the merrier!

Monthly Report for 3/21/23 Lee CC Meeting

Submitted by: Anne Tappan

Topic: ZBA Report

Activity since last CC meeting:

Eversource – ZBA hearing: A Special Exception was requested from Article XV, Wet Soils Conservation Zone, Section E-1 to permit temporary impacts to the Wet Soils Conservation Zone and within 75-feet of wet soils areas from matting to access and work on power line utility poles, including optical ground wire replacement, within an existing right-of-way at two locations in Lee. The CC submitted a letter to the ZBA stating that the CC had no concerns about the project. The ZBA approved the application for the special exception, with the work done according to attached BMP's.

Action Required:

No further action.

Topic: Planning Board Report

Activity since last CC meeting:

Aubuchon Hardware:

The Aubuchon Hardware Expansion project has again been continued, it is now scheduled for the 4/12/23 Planning Board meeting. The project is being reviewed by the town engineer.

Regulatory Audit Grant:

The PB decided to move ahead with the grant application even though members acknowledged there was a conflict between the Master Plan and the purpose of the grant. A subcommittee of PB members and Housing Committee members will be put together to complete the application.

Action Required:

A. Tappan will attend the next PB meeting 12 April 2023 and report on topics.

Topic: Glossy Buckhorn Removal at the Lamprey River Canoe Launch

Activity since last CC meeting:

The project was presented to and approved by Select Board at the 3/6/23 meeting. See the BOS agenda for the plan and attachments.

Action Required:

The Invasives Working Group will continue work through the project to-do list. Buckthorn leaf-out occurs in early May. To avoid misidentification of plants May is the likely start time.

Topic: Ford Field Winter Storm Damage

Activity since last CC meeting:

The late January 2023 ice storm damaged many trees around the perimeter of the field. In at least a dozen places single trees or clusters of trees are bent (arched), snapped with branches or tops hanging, or have fallen into the field. Damaged trees extend roughly 50 feet into or over the field. Birch, red maple, and poplar suffered the most damage. Some pine and oak are also broken. The damaged trees will impede mowing.

Action Required:

This report is to bring the situation to attention of the CC. A site walk can be arranged for anyone interested. No specific action is proposed. It is recommended that the CC discuss options, ranging from what to do about the damaged trees, to considering implementing a field stewardship plan.