

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

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

Alternate members: Laurel Cox, Mark Nelson

Select Board Representative: Scott Bugbee

Others Present: Scott Lawler, Marc Jacobs, Aaron and Hayden Wiswell (Concord Road Request for Variance); Gary Kustra, Tobin Farwell, Marc Jacobs (107 High Road Request for Variance); Fred Schultz (Schultz Easement)

Motion: To approve the Minutes of August 15 Meeting. C. Fisher moved to accept, D. Shay seconded; the motion was approved by the Lee Conservation Commission (LCC)

Motion: To approve the Minutes of August 21, Old Mill NRCS agreement; August 28, Old Mill NRCS agreement; September 14 Site Walk at 68 Concord Road. C. Fisher moved to accept, A. Tappan seconded; the motion was approved by the LCC.

Town Report: Done and unanimously accepted by LCC!

Monthly Reports

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

Easement Monitoring: D. Shay submitted via email. Report attached.

D. Shay noted that many properties are difficult or impossible to access. He suggests that the LCC consider the possibility of having a drone survey some easements. In addition, it might be possible to have the Trails Committee cut some selective trails to help with this issue.

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

Motion: Deb Sugerman be reimbursed for the Trails Committee banner from the \$560.83 remaining in their budget. D. Sugerman moved to accept; C. Fisher seconded and the motion was approved by the LCC.

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

Stewardship project LRCL/Town Report/shared drive: M. Winder submitted via email. Report attached.

Motion: To reimburse M. Winder \$90.34 for the purchase of the Logger's First Aid Kit. M. Winder moved to accept; D. Sugerman seconded and the motion was approved by the LCC.

D. Sugerman requested the LCC purchase a second First Aid Kit. M. Winder will order another one.

ZBA/No Hunting signs/Ford field: A. Tappan submitted via email. Report attached.

Motion: To authorize up to \$90 to purchase no hunting signs and waterproof labels. A. Tappan moved to accept; D. Shay seconded and the motion was approved by the LCC.

Anne Tappan briefed the LCC on the outcome of the ZBA meeting which denied the 15 Sheppard Lane Request for Variance. No CC action is required.

OLD BUSINESS

Schultz Easement: Fred Schultz expressed concerns that his request to have weddings on his easement property was denied. The LCC regrets that the restrictions of the easement language prohibit this request as presented. The LCC requested a written proposal for his plans for LCC review to determine if there could be adjustments to his plans that would permit this enterprise. A site visit is scheduled during the normal conservation easement monitoring date, **Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 8:30.**

Old Mill Natural Resources Conservation Service Project (NRCS): The initial agreement for this project is nearly complete.

NEW BUSINESS

Project Days Planned:

Oct. 14, Trails, LRP and Town Forest (D. Sugerman contact)

Oct. 21 & 27 (TBD), Stewardship invasives mitigation, Lamprey River Canoe Launch (M. Winder contact)

64 & 68 Concord Road: Scott Lawler presented plans for constructing a building to perform car maintenance (No oil changes!) for high performance vehicles and office space. He requests (3) variances to install a septic system within the wet soils setback and a building within the front and back set back requirements. He suggested that the CC flag potential non-native invasive plants that should be removed if possible. If accepted, the work will be scheduled for next spring, 2024.

107 High Road: Tobin Farwell presented plans for a house and garage construction at this address. He is requesting (2) variances to install a septic system within the wet soils setback and to allow construction that will not meet the soil depth requirement due to bedrock. A site visit is scheduled for **Thursday, Sept. 28 at 9am.**

Summer Camp Scholarship: Gibson Griffith, recipient of the 2023 LCC summer camp scholarship, shared his experience at Barry Conservation Camp. By all accounts he had a great time. Highlights included Canoe Trip!! Fishing!! Friends!! The LCC feels the money was well spent!

Next meeting Oct 17.

Adjourn: 6:27

Submitted by: Mimi Winder

Monthly Report - Sept. 19, 2023
Submitted by: AmandaGourgue

Treasurer's Report

David Allan Fund Account \$2,703.08

LCC Account \$13,789.05

Total \$16,492.10

We have had many transactions since our last meeting...

NHCF Grant - for the purpose of conserving and protecting open space \$6,700

Ricci Lumber - a credit due to ordering an extra box of nails \$101.72

Ricci Lumber - LTC materials for bridge eight \$1,418.03

Social Media Report

August 21st - September 17th

People Reached 7,100

Page Visits 272

Page Likes 15

Our most popular post was from August 31st, which I posted about why skunks are good. I love skunks! :D It reached 2,528 people and had 166 reactions, 11 comments, and 36 shares. However, a big thank you to Catherine and Deb for doing weekly posts Monday - Wednesday. Go, team!

Monthly Report for 19 SEP, 2023 Lee CC Meeting

Submitted by David Shay

Topic: Easement Monitoring

Activity since meeting of 15AUG, 2023

Easement properties monitored and by whom:

16AUG – Brisard (C. Fisher, D. Shay)

23AUG – Noble Farm (C. Fisher, M. Nelson, D. Shay)

02SEP – Sanborn (D. Shay, M. Winder and LO Phil Sanborn)

09SEP – Chisholm (C. Fisher, M. Nelson, D. Shay)

13SEP – Old Mill Reserve (C. Fisher, M. Nelson, D. Shay)

Action Required: Ask the LCC to consider remote (drone) monitoring of properties that are difficult or impossible to access (e.g., Noble Farm).

Easement Monitoring Scheduled for 19SEP – 17OCT:

20SEP – Verrette

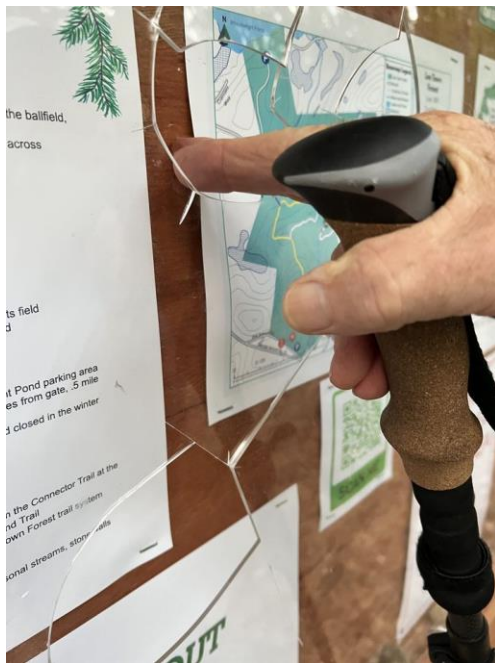
27SEP – Schultz

04OCT – Talley

Trails Committee Report to Conservation Commission Submitted by Deb Sugerman September 19, 2023

Kiosk at Durgin Preserve

- Vandalized 8.29.23
- Reported to police
- Fixed 8.31.23 (thicker plexiglass)



No Hunting signs

- 9.28.23 - placed along Rita Lane to prevent hunters from entering from private property
- Four volunteers @ 1 hour each = 4 hours of work
- Thanks to Anne for getting the signs and making labels for them



Tshirts

- T Shirts are in - I will bring the ones you ordered to the meeting

Bridge 8 at Wheelwright Pond

- Work starts Sunday, 9.17.23 with moving wood to site and then progresses to building.
- We have 2 days scheduled - will add more if needed.
- Two 12 foot spans with puncheons on either side

Lee Fair

- We will be set up next to the CC
- The change in date has made it challenging to have people at the booth
- We are bringing pictures of work done, trail maps, copies of the Trail Challenge, Tshirts, tools - lots of fun!!!
- I ordered a vinyl banner from Vista Print for \$42.78
 - I move that the CC allow Deb Sugerman to be reimbursed for the Trails Committee banner from the \$560.83 remaining in their budget.

Project Day Oct. 14

- Possible projects include:
 - Staining the Little River trail kiosk
 - Staining the bog platform in the Town Forest
 - Trail work at Little River Park
 - Placing the boundary markers at Durgin Preserve
 - Taking in the Trail Tale content for the winter
 - Other ideas?

Lee Conservation Commission (LCC)

Education/Outreach Report for Meeting of September 19, 2023

Submitted by: Catherine Fisher

Activity since meeting of August 15, 2023

Articles Written: Nine articles were written in the eight weeks since the meeting of August.

Easement Monitoring Articles: Five articles were written and posted on the LCC Facebook (FB) page and also appeared in the Lee E-Crier: "Looking" (August 16); "Walking with Wood Nymphs" (August 23); "Autumn Olive and A Hawking Hummingbird" (August 30); "A Gorgeous Native Clematis" (JSept 6); "Beautiful Lee" (Sept 13);

Nature Notes: Four articles were written and posted on the LCC FB page and appeared in the E-Crier. "The Little Black and Yellow Caterpillar that Isn't One: The Introduced Pine Sawfly, Part 1" (August 21); "The Bald Cardinals (and Blue Jays) of August" (August 28); " (July 3); "From Egg to Cocoon Introduced Pine Sawfly, Part II" (Sept. 4); "In which My Mother Discovers a Milk Snake" (Sept 18)

Events since August 15

Lee Day at Bedrock Gardens, August 20 Mimi and I set up in the only unsculpted area at Bedrock and arranged materials for creating mandalas on tree stumps. We made some nice ones and had a few folks stop by and admire them, but most people are there to see the gardens. There were no signs directing people to our activity and we were in a rather out-of-the way place. All in all, though she and I enjoyed ourselves, it was not really worth the three hours spent at the gardens nor the hours spent preparing for the event. It may be possible to do some kind of event at BG in the future, and I have been asked, but it needs to be better located and perhaps on some other day than Lee Day.

Upcoming Events:

Lee Library : Two nature walks, date TBD, will take place every six weeks beginning in September. These will take place on Thursdays with a morning preschool walk followed by an after school walk.

Seacoast Village Program, Town Forest Walk, 11:00 a.m., October 12:

Local 4H Chapter Nature Walk, Town Forest, 1:30 p.m., October 23

Monthly Report for 9/19/23 Lee CC Meeting

Submitted by: Mini Winder

Topic: Stewardship Project/LRCL - workday Thursday, Oct 21, 2023 9-12

I have planned a workday for follow-up for the Lamprey River Canoe Launch project for October 21, 2023. Tom Lee will attend and I plan to solicit volunteers at the Lee Fair, and through FB and eCrier articles (to be written). I performed a site visit with Tom Lee (8/31/23) to assess the situation and get advice on best practices going forward. I have included a follow up work plan which outlines my ideas for follow up for this multi-year project.

Topic: Town Report

The latest version of the Town Report for 2023 is completed for review.

Topic: Shared drive update

I continue to use the shared drive and encourage you all to check it out. This could be a useful resource going forward for the CC as it provides a convenient place to house our work files and information. I have added (and maintain) the following folders:

- Minutes (Town Reports as a subfolder)

- ZBA letters

- Work Plan descriptions

- LCC - useful docs - includes a contacts spreadsheet, chainsaw policy, right to know, etc.

Topic: Logger's First Aid Kit

Purchase a Logger's First Aid Kit per the Town's chainsaw policy.

Motion: To reimburse M. Winder \$90.34 for the purchase of the Logger's First Aid Kit.

Monthly Report for 9/19/23 Lee CC Meeting

Submitted by: Anne Tappan

Topic: ZBA and Planning Board

Activity since last CC meeting: ZBA hearing on the Fitzpatrick request for variances in the Lee Shoreland Conservation Zone

The ZBA did not approve the variance request.

Action required: Discuss the meeting and outcome. A. Tappan will keep in touch with C. Rossi regarding a possible appeal and a possible DES permit application.

Topic: No Hunting signs, Posting and Purchase

Activity since last CC meeting:

Notified CC of NH 2023 hunting seasons. Signs checked and posted or refreshed at Town Forest, Maud Jones, Ford, Lee 5 Corners, Little River Park. Additional are signs needed.

Action Required: Motion: Request to authorize up to \$90 to purchase No Hunting signs and waterproof labels.

Topic: Ford Field, Annual Mowing - Update

Activity since last CC meeting:

2023 Update: The annual field mowing is typically done in late fall, October or November. The south end of the field is scheduled for this year.

Action Required: A. Tappan will keep in touch with Chuck Cox regarding the mowing schedule and coordinate with DPW for possible tree cutting, the winter storm damaged trees remain.