

## **Lee Conservation Commission Minutes**

### **Tuesday, December 19, 2023**

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

**Alternate Members:** Laurel Cox, Mark Nelson

**Emeritus:** Bill Humm

**Others Present:** Don Quigley (arrived after 4pm)

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

#### **Monthly Reports**

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

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

Discussion of current activities for possible new trail evaluations. Deb will inform CC members when future trail walks are planned.

**Motion:** To continue 3 year terms for the trails committee members. D. Sugarman moved to accept; D. Shay seconded; the motion was approved by the LCC.

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

**ZBA&PB:** A. Tappan submitted via email. Report attached.

**Monitoring:** D. Shay submitted the 2024 schedule via email.

**Stewardship:** M. Winder submitted via email. Report attached.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Birch Tree Sap Project:** Dave Moore requests postponing some of the tree cutting until next year. The CC has no objection to this request.

**Natural Resources Inventory:** The commission needs to have a current, accurate map for prioritizing and planning. A public session is planned for January 27 to discuss community priorities for resource protection.

**Maude Jones Memorial Forest Timber Cut:** Don Quigley joined the meeting to discuss the status of this project. All pending approvals to start this work have been completed. He expects work to begin at the beginning of January and last about 3 weeks, weather dependent. A contract with the Foresters performing the work needs to be signed by Andy Robertson, D. Genes will receive a copy.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resignation:** A. Tappan will submit a resignation letter to the Select Board before the end of the year. Mark Nelson will transition to full CC member in January.

**Motion:** To designate Anne Tappan Emeritus status as of Jan 1, 2024 and she will continue as a volunteer. D. Sugerman moved to accept, D. Shay seconded and the motion was approved by the LCC.

**Next Meeting:** January 16, 2024

Adjourn: 5:02

Submitted by: Mimi Winder

Monthly Report: December 19, 2023

Submitted by: Amanda Gourgue

### **Treasurer's Report**

David Allan Fund Account \$2,703.08

LCC Account \$12,977.50

Total \$15,680.63

We had four transactions since our last meeting -

Reimbursement to Anne Tappan for easement signs \$75.79

Tuckaway Farm Joe Ford Mowing \$280.00

Reimbursement to Martin Thornton for bridge expenses \$34.08

Ricci Lumber - Bridge 1 (Town Forest) materials \$134.66

### **Social Media Report**

November 20th - December 17th

People Reached 5,700

Page Visits 320

Page Likes 3

Our most popular post was the Nature Notes from December 4th. It reached 2,749 people with 55 reactions, 38 comments, and 7 shares. YAY!

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

Nov. 27 we rebuilt Bridge 1, which is actually a Puncheon (lower to the ground than a bridge).



December 17 we had our annual Holiday Party with amazing food, fun gift exchange game, and awards for everyone.

Three groups have toured new areas:

Chris and Dennis Regan toured Ellis Oyster River with Mimi on 12.12.23;

Greg Ewing, Dawn, Amanda, and Deb toured Thompson Mill Rd on 12.15.23;

Paul McComisky, Leslie Chinburg, Dawn, and Deb toured Durgin Preserve on 12.15.23.

Naomi Alldredge and Anne have plans to tour Garrity Reserve in January.

Kent Kasper and Deb will tour James Farm in January.

We plan to have a proposal for the CC in Feb. Thanks to all of you who gave me recommendations for the project.

We are not having a December meeting, and will meet on January 24.



**Lee Conservation Commission (LCC)**

**Education/Outreach Report for Meeting of December 19, 2023**

**Submitted by:** Catherine Fisher

**Activity since meeting of November 23, 2023**

**Articles Written:** The following six articles were written and posted on the LCC's Facebook page and in the E-Crier:

Nature Notes: "Marcesence" (Nov 27); "Boom Time: A Mast Year" (Dec 4); "Red Squirrel Middens" (Dec 11);

Random Conservation Notes: "A New Tick Species Moving Up Through Eastern U.S." (Nov 29); "Breaking Bud: Spring Flowers in November" (Dec 6); "The Geminids: The Year's Best Meteor Shower" (Dec 8)

I will be taking a three week break from writing until January 8.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Lee Library:** One preschool walk will take place on Dec. 21 at 10:30

**Maud Jones Geology Walk:** Wally Bothner and I and possibly Don Quigley will do a preliminary walk in January (weather and conditions permitting). If the stars align we'll make plans for a winter walk; if not, we'll schedule the walk for early spring.

## **Monthly Report for 12/19/23 Lee CC Meeting**

Submitted by: Anne Tappan

### **Topic: ZBA and Planning Board**

#### Activity since last CC meeting:

I attended the Planning Board meeting on 12/13 regarding a project at 67 Concord Road. The parcel is located on Rte. 4 across from Dunkin Donuts. The former owner ran a seasonal nursery business there. The PB and N.H. Consultants had a preliminary non-binding consultation about plans for the site.

The proposal is to store two 40-foot-long trailers for storage and parking for one delivery truck when it is not in use. The two trailers are currently on site. Wet soils have been delineated, much of the site is wetlands. One trailer is located 46 feet from wet soils. The question about various setbacks hinges on whether the trailer is a structure. The PB had many questions and directed the consultant to meet with C. Rossi.

Action required: C. Rossi will meet with the N.H. Consultants after Christmas and will notify Mark and I if the project needs to go to ZBA for wet soils issues.

I will meet with Mark in January to share what I have learned about process, issues, and resources related to working with the ZBA. The meeting will be open to all CC members.

### **Topic: SPNHF notification for MJMF tree harvest**

#### Activity since last CC meeting:

In compliance with the easement on MJMF, the Forest Society (SPNHF) was notified of the proposed tree harvest. D. Quigley provided the cut plan and site map. The plan is approved. SPNHF requested a site visit prior to the harvest and a follow-up site visit just prior to completion.

Action Required: D. Quigley and I will coordinate the site visits and notify LCC of the schedule.

**Lee Conservation Commission (LCC)**  
**Stewardship Report for Meeting of December 19, 2023**  
**Submitted by:** Mimi Winder

Activities since last meeting:

- Checked on Wadleigh Falls Canoe Launch and observed beaver activity. I would like to install fencing to protect some remaining trees from beaver damage.
- Developing a Stewardship Action plan for 2024. After Christmas, Catherine and I plan to check out some areas that are under consideration. Activities may include invasive mitigation, habitat maintenance and outreach education (EAB workshop, possible invasive ID walk). Full plan to be shared at the Feb meeting.
- Developing a procedure to document/track CC Stewardship projects. Any thoughts or ideas are welcome.
- I will not be at the January meeting. Catherine has agreed to do the minutes.