

**Lyme Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2013**



PRESENT: Members – Blake Allison, Matt Stevens, Russell Hirschler, Tom Colgan, Joanna Jaspersohn, Lee Larson (Alternate), and John Peterson (Alternate).

Chair **Blake Allison** called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He appointed Lee and John as full voting members for the evening's meeting.

1. Review and Approve Minutes from 8/5/13

- On a motion by **Matt**, seconded by **Russell**, the 8/5/13 minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Land Protection and Easements

- **Conservation Easement Monitoring** – **Lee** said he would again in the coming year coordinate monitoring of the 30 properties where the Town of Lyme is the sole or part easement holder.

3. Trails and Land Management

- **Lyme Town Forest Payment** – Russell reported that he submitted paperwork to Dina to process **Jeff Smith's** payment.
- **Trout Pond Timber Harvest** – **Blake** said he had no update from **Ben Hudson** regarding scheduling a timber harvest in the forest.
- **Grant Brook Bank Stabilization** – **Matt** said he had been contacted by Grant Brook abutter Paul Guyre who was concerned about brook-side hemlocks on his property falling into the water due to bank erosion. Matt said he had suggested old Christmas trees be tied into the affected bank as had been done by the Commission a couple of years ago farther downstream. It was agreed the actual work was beyond the Commission's purview but that consultation and Christmas trees could be made available.
- **Clay Brook Beaver Pipe Removal** – **Blake** raised the matter of getting the pipe removal done before cold weather set in. After some discussion it was agreed to do the work Sunday, Sept. 15 at 1 p.m., conditions permitting. **Tom** said he would bring his tractor, and **Matt** said he would supply heavy rope.
- **Fall Trail Clean Up** – **Blake** asked whether the trails should be inspected before fall's onset. **Lee** said a recent walk in Trout Pond Forest showed several "blow downs" in need of clearing. It was noted The Chaffee was in good shape. It was suggested **James** or **Heather** could survey the Big Rock trail. **Matt** said he would check Lower Grant Brook. **Blake** said he would survey the western Town Forest Trail. Lee said he would walk the Beaver Pond segment.

4. Project and Application Review

- **22 Pout Pond Lane Follow Up – Blake** reported that **Matt, James and Lee** had joined him at the property Thursday afternoon, Sept. 5 to review proposed work on an existing deck that would include enclosing part of it with a screened in porch and extending it farther across the back of the house. The work would take place within a 100-foot wetland buffer and a property setback. After consideration they concluded the work would have minimal impact and should not prevent the project from going forward. Blake said he had informed ZBA Administrator Dave Robbins of that conclusion.
- **Post Pond Boat Landing Dredge Permit – Blake** said Dave Robbins had given him a Wetlands Permit Application with a request for Expedited Review. The proposed work would deepen the channel along the boat landing road to improve efficiency of a dry hydrant used by the Lyme Fire Dept. Blake noted the work had been proposed a couple of years previously, and the Commission had approved it then. On a motion by Tom, seconded by Joanna, the expedited permit was approved unanimously.

5. Outreach and Education

- **Lyme Hill Conservation Area Bird Survey Report – Blake** reported that a third census was conducted on Friday, August 16, and one other person joined him. The area surveyed was a loop beginning at Grant Brook on River Rd. up to the snowmobile bridge. Then the snowmobile trail was taken until reaching the trail that descends past the Gilbert Cemetery. Among the fourteen species counted were a red-eyed vireo and eastern wood pewee.
- **New Neighbor Potluck Supper at The Lyme Congregational Church on Friday, September 20, 2013 – Blake** asked whether anyone was available to represent the Commission for the gathering's informational segment. **Joanna** and **John** volunteered to attend.
- **Presentation at Lyme Converse Free Library – Blake** said that **Matt** had volunteered to give a presentation on terrestrial invasives and that the details would be worked out with Head Librarian Judy Russell.

6. Other Business

- **Another invasives Assessment -- Blake** said that **Heather** had arranged for Matt Tarr from UNH Extension and Grafton County Forester Dave Falkenham to walk The Chaffee and Big Rock preserves. The date will be Monday, Sept. 23 with a 9:45 a.m. start.

7. Publicity

- **Lyme Community and Church News – Joanna** said she would submit a piece on the emerald ash borer threat.

On a motion by **Matt**, seconded by **Joanna**, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

AS APPROVED 2013-10-07

Blake Allison, Secretary *emeritus*