

**Lyme Conservation Commission
Minutes
April 4, 2016**



Present: Blake Allison (Chair), Tom Colgan, Lee Larson (Alternate), James Monroe, Meg Sheehan (Alternate), Jay Smith (Select Board Rep.) and Matt Stevens,

Public: Erin Wetherell

1. Review and Approve Minutes from 2016-03-07

- On a motion by **Tom**, seconded by **James**, the March meeting minutes were approved unanimously

2. Land Protection and Easements

- **No Items Submitted**

3. Trails and Land Management

- **Invasive Terrestrial Species Action Plan** – There was general discussion about developing an action plan for the upcoming season. It was agreed that a presentation open to the general public regarding controlling invasives might be a useful event. **Meg** said she would contact the Lyme Gardeners to see whether they'd be interested in hosting the program. **Matt** volunteered to be the presenter.
- **Volunteer Lake Assessment Program 2016 Testing** – **Lee** noted that Post Pond and Reservoir Pond's due for their annual water quality testing through the VLAP. He said he would work with the assessor on Reservoir Pond but needed someone to work on Post Pond. **James** volunteered to take that on.

4. Project and Application Review

- **No Items Submitted.**

5. Outreach and Education

- **Action Plan Seminar Reminder** – **Blake** reminded attendees that that Fish & Game's local Wildlife Action Plan Workshop will be on Wednesday, April 13 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at W. Lebanon's Kilton Public Library.
- **UVLT's Annual Conservation Commission Meeting** – **Lee** reported that he and **Meg** attended. He said the main topic at the gathering was the showing of two films about land conservation and the meaning it has for participants.
- **Western Town Forest Vernal Pool Hike** – **Meg** said the event now is scheduled for Saturday, April 16 at 10:00 a.m, and that wetlands specialist Jim Kennedy would lead it. **Lee** said he had visited the site and that a determination needed to be made regarding how to best access it with a group of people. It was agreed to delay a final decision on that question until the 16th in order to know ground conditions with certainty.

Outreach and Education, cont.

- **Saturday, May 7: “Green Up Day” and “Lyme Day of Service”** – Blake introduced Erin Wetherell who is working with “Community Care of Lyme” that is organizing a Lyme Day of Service event that will take place on Saturday, May 7. She said her organization wants to include “Green Up Day” in the program and wants to work the Conservation Commission on planning and executing it. Her idea was gratefully received, and **Blake**, who has organized the last several “Green Up Days,” said he would provide Erin with information about roads to target and names of past volunteers.

6. Other Business

- **Little Town Common Landscaping** – Noting that Annual Town Meeting had voted to ban parking on the strip of land bordering the Lyme School’s parking lot, **Blake** reported on discussion about how to repair and landscape the parcel. He said preliminary talk favored a granite post and wood pole fence along the school boundary with perhaps some lilacs or hydrangeas planted in front of it. He thought the funds could be raised through private donation. **Lee** opined that the landscaping should require as little maintenance as possible. **Blake** said the Lyme Heritage Commission is interested in helping out.
- **Commission Personnel Changes** – **Blake** reported the following actions regarding the four Commissioners whose terms had expired. **Joanna Jaspersohn** has opted to renew but as an Alternate. **Ian Smith** resigned, because he is moving to Lebanon. **Lee Larson** agreed to stay for another term continuing as an Alternate. **Meg Sheehan** has been appointed to “Full Voting Member” status taking Joanna’s place.

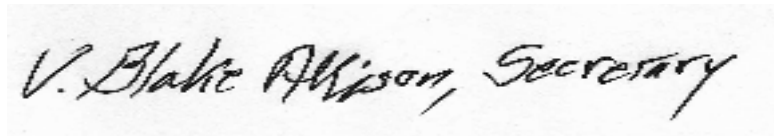
7. Publicity

- **Lyme Community and Church News Item: Green Up Day?** – **Blake** said he would publicize the event.

8. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V. Blake Allison, Secretary". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Blake Allison, Secretary *pro tem*

The Commission’s next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 2 beginning 7:00 p.m, at the Lyme Center Academy Building