



**Lyme Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.  
Lyme Center Academy Building**

**PRESENT:** Blake Allison (Chair and Secretary *pro tem*), Lee Larson (Alternate) James Munroe, Jay Smith (Select Board Rep.) and Meg Sheehan

Blake appointed Lee as a full voting member for the night's meeting.

**1. Review and Approve Minutes from 2016-06-06**

- On a motion by **James**, seconded by **Lee**, the June 6 meeting minutes were approved as submitted

**2. Land Protection and Easements**

- **No items submitted**

**3. Trails and Land Management**

- **Chaffee Signage Proposal Update – Blake** noted that all Commission members should have received an e-mail describing the trail signage Upper Valley Trails Alliance manager John Taylor proposed. It was agreed to move ahead with John's recommendations.
- **Holt's Ledge Intrusion Update – Jay** reported that the installer of the rock climbing courses at Holt's Ledge had been identified, and that the individual has been instructed to remove all fixtures from the rock face. He said the area will be posted.
- **Invasive Terrestrial Species Action Plan – Blake** tabled this item until such a time when Tom, Matt and Russ were available to contribute their expertise to the planning and execution of a program.
- **Post Pond Boat Launch Waters Clean Up – Blake** said that in the wake of a dead loon being recovered from Post Pond entangled in fishing line filament, licensed bird rehabilitator and Lyme resident Catherine Greenleaf had contacted him about cleaning out fishing line and lures from the boat launch area. She said the Moultonborough-based Loon Preservation Committee recommended using divers. Catherine has organized a diving team, Blake said. Catherine reported that some of them would work for free but others would want to be paid. She asked whether the Conservation Commission could put up some money to help defray costs. On a motion by Lee, seconded by Meg, an appropriation of up to \$200 from the Commission's Maintenance Budget was approved.
- **Chaffee Mowing – Lee** noted this was a mowing year for the Chaffee and asked whether the Commission wanted to have Alfred Balch do the work as in past years. Lee offered to contact Alfred to find out whether he is interested in the job.

**4. Project and Application Review**

- **No items submitted**



## 5. Outreach and Education

- **Matt's "Invasives" Presentation Follow Up – Blake and Meg** reported that almost two-dozen people attended Matt's talk and that it was well received. Matt opened with a slide presentation and then took attendees outside for a walk around the Academy grounds to identify invasives occurring there. Several non-native plant species were found.

## 6. Other Business

- **Disposal of Beaver Deceiver Parts – Lee** said the beaver deceiver installer Skip Lisle who saw the removed pipes sitting in the Chaffee had contacted him. Skip wanted to know, Lee said, whether the Commission was willing to part with them. Lee recommended doing so, but **Jay** said the Town wanted to keep the parts in case they had to be installed again. It was suggested that in order not to compact the vegetation, the Highway Dept. should wait until the end of August after the Chaffee had been mowed.
- **Little Town Common Fence Contribution? – Blake** said an agreement had been reached to erect a granite post and rail fence on the strip of land that separates the school parking area from the Little Town Common. The intention is to keep people from parking there which can be harmful to the trees on the strip. Blake said the expense would be covered by privately raised funds and that the project was expected to cost about \$3500. The group organizing the effort asked whether the Conservation Commission would contribute to the funding. On a motion by Lee, seconded by Meg, \$100 donation from the Commission's Maintenance Budget was authorized.

## 7. Publicity

- **Lyme Community and Church News Item: Monarchs and a Milkweed Mowing Moratorium – Lee** noted that monarch butterflies traditionally return to the Upper Valley in mid-July and begin laying eggs on the underside of milkweed leaves. Milkweed is the only food the monarch caterpillar will eat as it matures to a butterfly. Lee recommended that the July Conservation Corner article recommend that people not mow their milkweed until after the monarch breeding cycle has finished in mid-to-late August.

## 8. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

V. Blake Allison, Secretary *pro tem*

The Commission's next meeting will take place on Monday, August 1 at the Lyme Center Academy Building beginning at 7:00 p.m.