

**Lyme Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2014**



Present: Blake Allison, Tom Colgan, Joanna Jaspersohn, Lee Larson (Alternate), Sue MacKenzie (Select Board Rep.) and Matt Stevens

Blake called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He made Lee a full voting member for the meeting.

1. Review and Approve Minutes from 6/02/2014

- On a motion by Tom, seconded by Joanna, the minutes of the June 2 meeting were approved unanimously

2. Land Protection and Easements

- **Stanhope Rt. 10 Property – Tom said** he had talked recently with John Stanhope who is interested in selling his 15.5-acre property (Map 401/Lot 17) on Rt. 10 near Goose Pond Road. John told Tom that the Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT) had expressed some interest in the parcel and had inquired whether the Conservation Commission was interested in participating. It was agreed to wait for contact from the UVLT.
- **Robinson Conservation Easement – Lee** presented a summary of the issues surrounding a conservation easement the Town holds on this 65 acre property located at 39 Smith Mt. Rd. (Tax Map 414/Lot 14). Lee noted that the Robinson family gave the Town the easement in 1988. The Society for Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF) has executor interest on the easement. The issue at hand, said Lee, was that a formal survey was done on the abutter's in the mid-1990s that that used the same corner pins but changed the boundary description but that change was not noted on the easement deed. In addition, prior to signing the easement the Robinsons granted their neighbors to the northeast a small right-of-way across a corner of their property, a fact not noted in the easement description. These defects must be remedied before the impending closing on the sale of their property. The Commission had been asked to put forth any concerns it might have. After some discussion, it was agreed the Commission would accept whatever settlement the SPNHF, the Town and the Robinsons reached. (Note: There are available for review a series of e-mails that go into more detail regarding the particulars of the matter).

3. Trails and Land Management

- **Chaffee/Town Beach Connecting Trail and Bridge Update – Blake** provided an update on the project's status. He said the Upper Valley Trails Alliance's (UVTA) High School Trails Corp largely completed the work over a three-day period beginning July 15. He said the work had taken longer than anticipated due to logistical issues regarding placement of the two 30 foot stringers that, weighing 200 lbs./each, were a challenge to put in place. He said some decking needed to be re-installed, and the approaches need to be built. Blake noted that Russ Hirschler and John Taylor of UVTA have a crew of Tuck School volunteers scheduled to come do the remaining work on 8/18. The cost for the first two days was \$500 to be paid from the Commission's maintenance budget.

Trail's and Land Management, Cont.

- **Bridge Update, cont.** – An additional \$500 would be needed to pay for days three and four. Blake also noted \$500 had been paid to Dickerson Logging for the two stringers and associated trucking fees. This money also will come from the maintenance fund. He said special thanks was due Commission member Tom Colgan for donating four, thirty foot long, hemlock logs from his own woodlot and for mowing paths to the work site. He also said Lyme forester Ben Hudson deserved the Commission's gratitude for securing the two stringers and arranging for their delivery and aiding with their installation.
- **Trout Pond Forest Easement Monitoring Report – Blake** noted that the easement monitoring had taken place on 7/9. A report had been issued and was available to review.

4. Project and Application Review

- **Post Pond Lane Site Visit to Schedule – Blake** said the ZBA had requested that the Commission do a site visit at 53 Post Pond Lane in conjunction with the owner's plans to add a deck to the Post Pond (east) side of the house. All work would take place in the Shoreline Conservation District.
- **River Rd. Bridge Repairs at Grant Brook – Blake** said NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) had asked the Commission to comment on the Town's Wetlands Permit Application's stemming from plans to make repairs to the one lane bridge that carries River Road over Grant Brook. He described the project and asked for input. After some discussion members agreed the Commission should wave its input right to intervene as described under RSA-482:A-11.
- **Lyme School Update – Blake** said the NHDES had returned the Lyme School's expedited permit application due to insufficient description of the work and its impact on surrounding wetlands. He noted this would not require the Commission's re-involvement because it had already signed off its right to further review (see 2014-06-02 CC Minutes As Approved 2014-08-04).

5. Outreach and Education

- **No Items Submitted**

6. Other Business

- **Conservation Fund Expenditure** – On a motion by **Tom**, seconded by **Lee**, the Commission unanimously voted to appropriate from The Conservation Fund the sum of \$7500 to help the Town defray costs associated with the 2014 Eurasian Milfoil Eradication Program at Post Pond.
- **NHDES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program Completed -- Lee** said he and Heather had worked today with a DES representative at Reservoir Pond and Post Pond respectively to take samples for this year's assessment. **Matt** asked whether there was a DES database that archived the annual results. Lee said he thought there was and offered to investigate.

7. Publicity

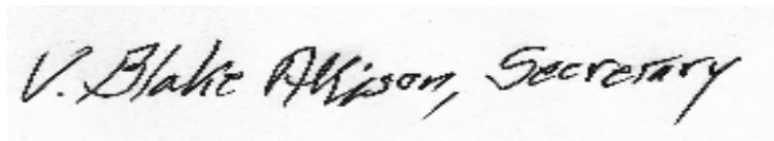
- **Next Lyme Community and Church News Item** – **Blake** said he would submit an article that profiled the new Chaffee/Chase Beach connecting bridge.

8. Adjournment

- On a motion by **Tom**, seconded by **Lee**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Due to the Labor Day holiday occurring on the month's first Monday, the Commission's next meeting will be Monday, September 8 at 7:00 pm at the Lyme Center Academy Building.

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*