



**Lyme Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.  
Lyme Center Academy Building**

**Present:** Blake Allison (Chair), Russell Hirschler (Vice Chair), Tom Colgan, Jay Smith (Select Board Rep.), Matt Stevens (Sec.), James Munroe, Lee Larson (Alt.), Meg Sheehan, Tara McGovern (public)

Chair Allison called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Chair Allison appointed L. Larson as voting member for the meeting

**1. Review and Approve Minutes from 2016-12-05**

- Motion from T. Colgan, Second from R. Hirschler, the December meeting minutes were approved unanimously without further revision.

**2. Land Protection and Easements**

- **No Items Submitted**

**3. Trails and Land Management**

- **Holts Ledge Usage Guidelines Update** – T. McGovern expressed her concerns about the draft Holt's Ledge Management Plan (Ordinance): She said regular noise and disturbance by climbing parties have impacted quality of life for some residents on Canaan Ledge Lane. Tara also noted that residents had received a copy of the original draft by mail, but were not notified that the draft had been revised to its current iteration. Current access to the climbing site uses private property for which no permission has been formally granted.

Other discussion items:

M. Sheehan asked whether another public hearing could be scheduled for those who are unable to attend at 9 a.m. on a Thursday morning. J. Smith suggests that it is unlikely. L. Larson and T. Colgan express concern that adopting the current draft of the ordinance, which could be perceived as rewarding legally questionable behavior, will set an undesirable precedent. J. Smith reiterated that the ordinance can be rescinded or nullified at the will of the Select Board if it is not followed. Several attendees asked how compliance would be assessed or measured. No procedure for compliance review has been established.

**4. Project and Application Review**

- **No Items Submitted**



## 5. Outreach and Education

- **Discuss Possible Events for 2017:** Several ideas for potential sponsored events were offered, including invasive plants, vernal pool, pollinators, spring ephemeral flowers and winter tracking. Members were encouraged to pursue organizing activities in which they would be interested.
- **Schedule Snow Shoe Hike:** To be offered on Sunday, February 12 with a secondary date of February 19

## 6. Other Business

- **Inter-town conservation opportunities:** Chair Allison encouraged members to consider conservation projects with cross-border or connective implications among neighboring towns (Orford, Canaan, Hanover, etc.).

## 7. Publicity

- **Lyme Community and Church News Item** – B. Allison will submit an article.

## 8. Adjournment

- On a motion from R. Hirschler, seconded by T. Colgan the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Matthew Stevens*

Matthew Stevens, Secretary

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, February 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lyme Center Academy Building.