



**Lyme Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Blake Allison (Chair), Matt Stevens (Secretary), Tom Colgan, James Munroe, C. Jay Smith (Select Board rep.), Meg Sheehan, Lee Larson (Alternate).

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Chairman Allison appointed Lee Larson as a voting member for the meeting.

1. Review and Approve Minutes from 2018-01-06

- On motion from T. Colgan and second from J. Munroe the minutes are accepted unanimously.

2. Land Protection and Easements

- **Possible Land Protection project** – L. Larson presented information about 4 parcels (415-24, 416-24, -25, -26) of land near Trout Pond collectively referred to as the Robinson Land. The grandchildren of the former owner currently own (absentee) the land. Though the land is not currently on the open market, the owners will entertain “serious” purchase offers. Town records provide a current tax assessment of \$320K, but the land would need a current appraisal for any offer to be formulated. Access is via the Trout Pond Lane extension through other private lands. All four parcels are relatively remote and part of a rather large, unbroken forest block in the vicinity of Trout Pond and are, therefore, somewhat protected by virtue of limited and difficult access. General discussion suggests that the parcels are best left as open space, but that given the limited threat from development, they may not warrant pursuit of a town-owned interest (conservation easement). Members present tentatively agreed that a conservation buyer be sought first before other avenues are explored.

3. Trails and Land Management

- **Refresher Review of Town Forest and Trout Pond Forest Management Plans** – B. Allison reminds members present that each management plan includes recommendations for some timber extraction as well as possible recreational development. Members are encouraged to review the plans and bring ideas and suggestions to subsequent meetings for discussion.

4. Project and Application Review

- **No Items Submitted**

5. Outreach and Education

- **Discuss Annual Snowshoe Walk** – The hike is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 18. Depending upon conditions, it may be held in the Trout Pond Forest area.



- **Natural Resources Inventory Update?** – The town's NRI was completed by Watershed to Wildlife in 2007. M. Stevens suggests that some updates may be available for inclusion. Information from the Holt's Ledge botanical survey conducted by A. Schori in 2017 can be added as well as any updated map information now available from NHGranit. M. Stevens will contact Watershed to Wildlife to inquire about potential updates and revisions. M. Sheehan suggested that the information might be posted in some format on the Internet to allow for easier access to those interested.

6. Other Business

- **Town Meeting Warrant Articles: Culvert Inventory, Milfoil Treatment & LUCT Change** – J. Smith provided updates on these warrant articles as they will appear for Town Meeting. The funding that was allocated by the Con Com for the 2017 milfoil treatment was not approved by the Commission until July. Voters already had approved the 2017 treatment money, to be raised by taxes, at March's Annual Town Meeting. By law, those funds had to be used. The Commission's appropriation will be used to pay for the 2018 treatment.
- **Expiring Terms and Recruitment** – Terms of four commission members (or alternates) expire this year: J. Munroe, M. Sheehan, R. Hirschler and M. Kieffer (alt.). Munroe, Sheehan and Hirschler have expressed interest in continued service; Chair Allison will solicit new membership via the CC's webpage and the Lyme Listserv and will present a slate of nominations to the Select Board after Town Meeting in March.

7. Publicity

- **Lyme Community and Church News Item** – B. Allison will prepare notes.

8. Adjournment

- On motion from M. Stevens and second from T. Colgan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

The next full meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held at 7 p.m. on March 5, 2018 at the Lyme Center Academy Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Stevens