



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

Attendance: Blake Allison (Chair), Russell Hirschler (Vice-Chair), Matt Stevens (Secretary), Tom Colgan, James Munroe (Alt), Lee Larson (Alt). and Sue MacKenzie (Select Board Rep)

Public attendees: Tom Morrissey, Meg Russell

Chair Alison called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.; L. Larson and J. Munroe are appointed voting members for the meeting.

1. Review and Approve Minutes from 2018-04-02

On motion from R. Hirschler, second from T. Colgan, minutes from April 4 meeting are approved with two abstentions (Hirschler, Colgan).

2. Land Protection and Easements

- **No items submitted**

3. Trails and Land Management

- **Trails Surveys Needed** – Chair Alison reminded the group that scouting of Town trails is needed in advance of National Trails Day (June 2).
 - Trout Pond Trail – L. Larson
 - Chaffee Sanctuary trails – B. Allison
 - Town Forest Trail – J. Munroe
 - Lower Grant Brook Trail – M. Stevens
 - R. Hirschler will check with NHDOT about repairing berm at Rte 10 parking for Big Rock Sanctuary

4. Project and Application Review

- **Tom Morrissey Septic and Accessory Structure Upgrade** – Mr. Morrissey presented plans for a new septic system at 180 Dartmouth College Highway. The proposed system falls within the wetland conservation zone buffer. There is some possibility that the existing septic system will be adequate, but the owner wants to have the ability to construct a new one if not. M. Stevens stated that he anticipates no increased impact and potentially improvement on the site dynamics to general agreement. L. Larson moved to have the Commission send a letter to ZBA stating that opinion. On Second from T. Colgan the motion is approved unanimously.
- **Town of Lyme “To Do” List – Sue MacKenzie** – Ms. MacKenzie presented plans for several pending projects on River Road including:



- Road stabilization work just south of Grant Brook Bridge is expected to begin in June. The work will include placement of a base of rip-rap and covering of durable surface material.
- The Hewes Brook bridge repair/replacement has been published for bids. The project will include placement of a temporary bridge on the west side of the existing road.
- Road relocation at the current slump just south of East Thetford Road. The road will be relocated slightly to the east (landward) and drainage culverts will be installed at both ends of the new construction. It is hoped that work will begin in autumn of the 2018.

Ms. MacKenzie also mentioned reports from the State of NH on several bridges and culverts in town that need attention:

- Grant Brook at Market Street needs Japanese knotweed control on upstream side and some stabilization/armoring on downstream side where erosion has undermined the abutment on the south side.
- Trout Brook at Highbridge needs trees saplings removed from the superstructure to avoid further deterioration. M. Stevens agrees to do the work.
- Culvert on unnamed tributary to Grant Brook on Baker Hill Rd. needs replacement and plans are being developed for a bridge to replace the culvert.
- Trout Brook at Pony Hill Lane will be spanned with a temporary bridge to stabilize a failing culvert until funding is available to apply a permanent repair.

5. Outreach and Education

- **Vernal Pool Outing Update – James** – The Commission concurred with suggestion from B. Allison to cancel the vernal pool outing for this year due to scheduling difficulties and inability to find a leader.
- **“Green Up Day” Results – Blake** – B. Allison reports a successful day covering all major road corridors in town. R. Hirschler mentioned a small pile of tires cached on River Rd. that need to be picked up and taken to the transfer station.
- **International Migratory Bird Day on Saturday, May 12** – B. Allison reminded the group that there are many events scheduled, sponsored by NH Audubon and other conservation groups in the region.
- **Trails Day on Saturday, June 2** – B. Allison said publicity would be published once the trails have been surveyed and needed work has been prioritized.

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6. Other Business

- **Report re LCDC Meeting(s)** – S. MacKenzie reported that the Lyme Community Development Committee has published a Request for Proposals, which will close on May 15. The LCDC will have a special meeting on May 16 (or thereabouts) to deliberate on proposals received.
- **Fence Repair at Ball Field/Trout Brook** – M. Stevens volunteered to replace several failed fence rails. T. Colgan suggested that large boulders as a more durable alternative, which may be explored in future.

7. Publicity

- **Lyme Community and Church News Item – Blake**



8. Adjournment – On motion from R. Hirschler, second from T. Colgan the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Stevens

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday June 4, 2018 at the Lyme Center Academy Building.