

**Lempster Conservation Commission Meeting - July, 14 2021**

**Meeting was held at different time and place: 4:00 pm at Town Office Route 10**

**Members present: Wesley Ash, Ivan Wallace, Rachel Tirrell, Sue Lichty, John Nowak, Scott Goodspeed, Phil Tirrell, and guests Sharron Wallace and Pat McCabe.**

**May Minutes read and approved.**

**Treasurer's Report read and accepted**

**Old Business:**

- Saturday May 22nd, LCC members Wesley Ash, Ivan Wallace, Phil Tirrell, and Rachel Tirrell met with volunteers at the Lempster Meeting House at 2 pm. 10 student and 6 adult volunteers came to help, Wanda Ash, Jillian Thomas, Aubrey Thomas, Ella Thomas, Mrs Jennings, Olive Jennings, Cider Jennings, Fern Jennings, Mrs. Walker, Brooke Walker, Madison Walker, Rosie Moote, Zach Dumont, Haley Dumont, Mr. Cox and Grace Cox, Roadside pickup was done on Lempster Street from Keyes Hollow to the old fire house and a portion of Allen Road.
- Old Home Day is August 13-15, Phil contacted Ben Killam and he will let Phil know when he begins doing shows again, but he isn't available for Old Home Day. Sharron and Pat asked if the LCC were interested in providing a food table with coffee and donuts or hamburgers and hotdogs, but no one is available to do that this year. We will sponsor a self guided hike of Duck Pond and Lady Slipper trails. 35 maps of each trail will be set out on a table and Rachel will make a poster to showcase the work of the conservation commission and encourage volunteers.
- Trail handouts for Duck Pond and Lady Slipper Trail will be left here at the office. Some will also be at the kiosk when we get a container to hold them. Sue is going to look into a QR code to be put on our maps or on the website.
- A sign for the trailhead at Lady Slipper Trail is needed. The Long Pond Protection Association was contacted and are looking into providing one.
- Porta potties have been placed at Duck Pond Trail and Earl's Lane parking lots. Several people have mentioned appreciating them.
- No new "Intent to cut" paperwork
- Johnson Property has been cut off.
- A date and time to use our deed of the orchard property on Earl's Lane to walk the boundary and place the private property signs has been tabled until the weather improves. This could be done after a meeting or sometime when members are available.
- John Nowak spoke to a representative at the office of Annie Custer about possible grants. They do not have any information about grants for next year and unsure if any will be available. They did provide links to Community Funding grants. John asked for a sense of what projects and amounts the LCC might be thinking of applying for. The orchard is a big project that is going to need professional guidance and some heavy equipment to fix the problems there, accomplishing it may take up to \$20,000. We would have to get an estimate. Sullivan County Extension has offered to show us how to prune

the trees this spring. They may also be a resource to help find someone who could give us an estimate.

**New Business:**

- Mindy Chadwick would like to volunteer to work on trails; Rachel asked if she can contact her and other possible volunteers when we are working on trail maintenance or other projects. Members felt it would be great to have more volunteers come.
- 2 signs have been requested. The PTSA has adopted Lovejoy Rd and would like a sign saying that. The sign on Wolf Hill near the coo on on Lempster Street saying th LCC has adopted that portion of the road is no longer readable and needs to be replaced. The state might replace the one on the state road but the Lovejoy Rd sign would have to be purchased. Scott will contact the state highway crew and also look into getting a sign made through the state prison.
- Sue asked if the Long Pond Protection Association could provide information about the lake host program, such as number of boats approached, if any invasive species have been reported, etc. This type of information has been provided by the Sand Pond Protective Association in the past. Rachel said she will contact the lady who is in charge and ask if the information can be provided to LCC.
- John Nowak made a bench and placed it near the trail at Duck Pond overlooking the pond. Many thanks to John, it is very appreciated!
- The clean up around Lupin Pond/placing of boundary line signs around the orchard/ Earl's Lane property has been postponed until weather improves.
- There was a discussion about improving signage on trails so someone could report their location to authorities in case of emergency. Some ideas were color coding/tree blazing and numbering; having a QR code on the maps allowing people to download maps with information; putting GPS locations on signs along the trail. We will come back to this as people research ideas.
- Scott brought up the idea that the town should not sell or limit using the minerals such as sand and gravel on town properties. He believes the Mill Road property may have sand and gravel that could be a valuable resource in the future for the town. The Hurlbert, Pollards Mills Rd, and Hurd Pond piece are all valuable also and should be kept rather than sold. It seems the select board is not interested in selling town forest lands but that could change in the future. The committee decided that it should write a letter to the select board asking that those properties be kept for the towns use and not sold or turned over to outside agencies to govern. Rachel will try to have a draft letter for the committee to look over for the next meeting.
- John reported on the “Carbon Credit Initiative” and wondered if it was possible for the town or the LCC to qualify to earn money through the program. Satellite images are used to estimate the tonnage of green biomass on a piece of property. There is then a bid application, and the property owner may receive money for not cutting the property for a year. John will look into this program more closely to see if it is available to town owned properties in NH.
- Next meeting is August 24th@ 4:30 at the town office.