

LEMPSTER Conservation Commission Meeting

December 5, 2023 @ 2:00 pm @ town office

Meeting called to order at: 2:00 pm

Members present: Phil, Ivan, Mindy, Lynda, John, Rachel, Scott, Robin Guests: Reed and Jennifer Gildner-Blinn

Secretary's report: accepted with corrections (Rachel attended the last meeting, and meeting ended at 5:45pm)

Treasurer's report: accepted as read \$8946.13 is current balance with all bills paid

- River Road: Scott will be putting up a "new no parking in road sign" up at River Road
- Grants: Lynda said the RTP grant cycle info goes out in April
- Trails: nothing more to be done until spring
- Intent to cut: no new
- Orchard at Earl's Lane: Matt will begin more work on the orchard sometime in December
- Signage needed: trail signs for Moose to River Ledge will be placed in the spring
- Educational programs: none planned at this time
- Grant/award/scholarship: Needs to be written up so it can be given to regional schools. Rachel will try to have a preliminary form for next month
- National Trails Day, Saturday June 3rd: postpone discussion
- Long pond lowering of dam: Phil presented a letter to the selectmen, but no discussion or action has been heard from the board. It was suggested that the group go to a selectmen's meeting sometime in the future before the dam is being considered for lowering again to present findings of the detriments to flora and fauna of lowering water each year. LCC needs to develop a plan for lowering the dam, such as every five years for work on the dam and surrounding properties.
- Any animals spotted in town or surrounding area: cardinals, coyotes, foxes, beavers, bears, possums, deer, and eagles
- Any other old business: LCC did send a letter to the selectmen giving our position that the lot at Long Pond should not be sold but they have decided to sell it anyway.

**New Business:**

- Scott asked for clarification for the number and the locations of the right of ways to Long Pond. It was discussed and he was shown they are clearly marked on the town map.
- A member was approached about what the LCC knew about Grove Road, a class 6 road in town on the Acworth town line. We asked Robyn if there are concerns since she has visited the site. She said the town is dealing with the problem.
- Any other new business: Reed Gildner-Blinn gave information to the commission about asking for extra time to review the wetlands permit application. He also spoke about a current petition to have the building inspector declare a DRI, Development of Regional Impact. It would allow hearings for commentary on people's concerns for increased sound, emissions, traffic, etc. He feels a failure to declare a DRI could open the town up for litigation.

Date of next meeting: January 3 at the town office @ 4:30pm

Meeting adjourned at: 5:33 pm

