

LEMPSTER Conservation Commission Meeting

February 7, 2024 @ 4:30 pm @ town office

Meeting called to order at: 4:28pm

Members present: Mindy C, Lynda P, Rachel T, Ivan W, John N, Phil T.

Guests: Vicki Madziarek, Jack Swatt

Secretary's report: accepted with change to National Trails Day I'd June 1st

Treasurer's report: accepted as read with a balance of \$11,348.72

- River Road: Douglas Brodeur, engineer, will come to meet with us sometime after March 8th. Phil contacted DES, Emma Berger, about removing vegetation on and beside River Road. She said no permits are needed.
- Grants: Lional Chute has not returned John N's calls about grants available through Sullivan County.
- Trails: No new discussions
- Intent to cut: A letter was received about the Cheever property along Sand Pond Road from the Earhart Frost Full Circle Forestry LLC Thetford Vt plan to remove more than 50% of the trees on the property.
- Orchard at Earl's Lane: controlled burn planned, see new business
- Signage needed: Lynda has not ordered as yet because the ground is frozen
- Educational programs: No new information
- Eighth Grade Award: Creation of an award for a graduating Lempster eighth grader was reviewed and accepted. The award information is to be sent to the Lempster Community School and posted at the Miner Memorial Library (see attached award application)
- Animals spotted in town or surrounding area: several moose on Mountain Road, bluebirds, grosbeaks, barred owl, pine siskins, skunks, porcupines, deer and turkeys
- Agenda building: Add "Recreation Areas" to Old Business
- Any other old business: There is a meeting on February 27th, 7pm at the school to discuss the state's plan for a 4 way stop at the intersection at Route 10.

New Business:

- Duck Boxes: Jack Swatt spoke to the commission about replacing duck boxes at Duck Pond. He cleaned out the boxes at Long Pond and found an unhatched egg in one and several shells from hatchlings in the other, so they are being used by wood ducks. He was thanked for his volunteering and will be placing duck boxes at Duck Pond this late winter or spring.
- The Orchard: Special Deputy David Jones and David Richards, Forest Warden for Lempster spoke to the commission about doing a controlled burn at The Orchard to clean up overgrowth under the trees and surrounding field. The plan has been developed in concert with the Lempster Fire Dept, state Forestry, and the state Conservation Commission. They will contact the select board and abutting land owners. The date will be decided by the weather. A vote was taken and passed unanimously to allow the prescribed burn.
- The members voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Scott Goodspeed. The members voted to request Robin Maguire take his position as she has been filling in during his absences. We also voted to request Vicki Madziarek become our new

alternate. Vicki has been attending meetings as a guest and is pursuing her education in environmental science. These two recommendations will be given to the select board.

Date of next meeting: March 6th at the town office @ 4:30

Meeting adjourned at: 5:59 pm