

LONDONDERRY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, September 20, 2017

6 pm Town Office

**Present:** Irwin Kuperberg, Helen Hamman, Steve Swinburne and Mark Wright. Kathie Stone was absent with prior notification. Guests: Annie Campbell and Lyle Blaisdail

The meeting was called to order at 6:05

**New Members:** Mark said that Sunny Wright was interested. Annie and Lyle said they would see if they would be able to make the commitment.

**Minutes** from August were approved by all

**Treasurer's Report:**

Helen Hamman reported that there was very little change from the August balance of the Londonderry Conservation Fund.

**Old Business: Lowell Lake Paddle** - Aquatic biologist, Laurie Callahan, led a two hour paddle around Lowell Lake. Water quality in the lake is excellent with filtration provided by the marsh at its opening. Flora and fauna include carnivorous plants and good milfoil as well as loons and beavers. Lyle said there has always been a nesting pair of loons and there was very good bass fishing, especially at daybreak. Mark mentioned the State's development plan for Lowell Lake. Annie said that it was on-hold and there was not yet a charge for parking. Lyle said that as a native Vermonter he would not want to be charged to park but if it would help the lake thought it might be a good idea. The lake was determined to be healthy despite increasingly high usage, especially on weekends.

**Sue Morse:** The invoice for Sue Morse's presentation about cougars at Flood Brook School on October 3<sup>rd</sup> was submitted for payment. There was a relatively long discussion of the planning and logistics of this event. It is hoped that it will be well attended.

**Prouty Land:** The use of town property called Prouty land was mentioned in regard to the proposed salt shed to be housed on the land so close to the West River. The LCC is concerned about possible leaching of the salt into the river and the conflict between nature and structures in general.

**New Business:**

Mark suggested having a conversation with nearby watershed towns to see what they were doing. He mentioned Weston and the town of Peru. It was thought that Landgrove's Conservation Commission was disbanded.

Annie suggested that the Depot would be a good place to get together for discussions, events or presentations.

It was noted that foliage was early this year, the color of the trees are dull, and the ground is now very dry.

A walk on town property prior to meeting with VT Ecological people was suggested as well as a snowshoe walk in the future

**Wildlife Sightings:** Woodchucks, porcupine, heron, chipmunks, moose, raccoons, bats, turkeys, coyote, bobcat and beavers.

**Next Month Meeting:** October 26<sup>th</sup>. Tentatively scheduled - November 16th