

***Deering Conservation Commission  
762 Deering Center Road  
Deering, New Hampshire 03244***

**Minutes for 08 May 2017 Meeting**

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Bob Welsh

**Attendance:** Gary Samuels, Bob Welsh, Jon Stuart, Dennis Sawyer, Jackie Sawyer

**Also present:** Deering residents, Glenn Clark, Alan Maddox, Ed Cobbett, Larry Sunderland

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of 10 April were approved as read.

**Old Business:**

Deering Lake Hosts. Larry Sunderland was invited to make specific recommendations to DCC regarding its involvement in the Deering Lake Hosts Program. Mr Sunderland reported that Kayla Belouin will continue to manage the program through 2017 but that a new manager will have to be recruited for the 2018 season. An application for a grant to support the program for 2017 has already been submitted. The season extends from Memorial Day to Labor Day with Lake Hosts on duty Friday through Sunday. Mr Sunderland would like to extend the season and indicated that he would inspect boats coming to the lake after Labor Day. Mr Sunderland undertook to look for a new manager from the Deering Lake Improvement Association. Mr Sunderland said that he would like to see greater involvement of the DLIA. Alan Clark said that the DLIA considers the Lake Hosts Program to be a program of the town and not of the DLIA. Mr Cobbett said that DLIA initially approached DCC about developing a Lake Hosts program and DCC has always been involved with the Lake Hosts Program. He referred to a red book in the DCC closet (ground floor, Town Hall) that outlines the duties of the DCC members should be involved in recruiting a new manager for the Lake Hosts Program. Mr Sunderland distinguished between the Lake Hosts, which inspect incoming boats, and the DLIA Weed Watchers, which keeps an eye out for nonnative plants and animals on Deering Reservoir. The head of the DLIA Weed Watchers is Nancy Huckins. Mr Sunderland noted that New Hampshire DES passes through money from the Federal EPA. At this time the impact of the reduction of funding for EPA at the local level is unknown. The 'weed fund' currently stands at approx. \$22K This fund has been gradually increased over time; each year it increased by approximately \$1500, which is the amount left over after annual lake expenses are met. It is essential to have money in the fund in the event that the State is required to treat Deering Reservoir following introduction of an invasive such as variable milfoil. With regard to Lake Hosts, Mr Sunderland noted that with increasing volunteer hours the grant to the town can be substantially increased. Mr Clark asked whether Community Service hours would entice high school students to participate in the Lake Hosts program. In the end, DCC recognizes that it is essential to clarify soon who will manage the Lake Hosts program for 2018. To this end, Larry Sunderland volunteered to write the grant for 2018 and Kayla Belouin will be invited to attend the June meeting to learn of her plans for the program and its status. A question was raised as to whether DCC should be paying DLIA for lake water testing.

Conserved Lands. Ed Cobbett was asked by the town to prepare a list of all preserved lands in Deering. That task is nearly complete. Now the conserved status of a property can be immediately recognized by looking at town files. There is a copy of deed and survey for each parcel in town; this is held by the assessor's office. Some of the 'books' for conservation easements are missing, and for others there is only a single copy. DCC must endeavor to locate the missing books. Mr Cobbett agreed to make necessary copies. Mr Cobbett reported that town administrator wishes to keep the master copy in his office, or at least under lock and key. DCC members noted some difficulty in getting access to the books for want of a key. The key is available through the administrative assistant, Carrie Goodwin.

Roadside Cleanup. The 2017 Deering Town Roadside Cleanup was held on Saturday, 06 May. The day was cold and wet with low participation by Deering residents. A second town-wide cleanup was suggested for the fall. His Mansion and The Wilds both sent teams to clean roads in diverse parts of town. DLIA members also formed a team. DCC is grateful for their participation and Chair Welsh will write notes of appreciation to them. Despite a request to Hillsboroug/Deering high school for participation of students who needed community service time there was no response from any students. A suggestion was made that The Wilds formally adopt a part of Deering Center Rd for periodic cleaning.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 by chairman Welsh.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 12 June at 6:30 in Deering Town Hall. On the agenda will be conservation of certain town-owned properties.

Respectfully submitted

Gary Samuels

Secretary