

Lamoine Conservation Commission-December Meeting Minutes for December 13, 2017

Members present: Larissa Thomas, chair; Doug Stewart, Jeff Cosulich, Kerry Diskin, Linda Penkalski

Alternate members present: Diane Nichols

Alternate members not present: Mike Jordan

Meeting was convened at the Lamoine Town Hall by Chairman Thomas at 7:00 PM.

Topics discussed:

GetWet!: It was decided to buy the necessary equipment to continue the program from the LCC Fund, supplemented by the generous donation from Larry and Lois Libby. Approximately \$450 will cover current needs, since there will only be about 15 students participating in 2018. Additional purchases will need to be made to support continuation of the program in the coming years.

The GetWet! Event at the school will be in March, 2018. Specific day TBD.

It was also determined to include the monitoring of Blunts Pond under a future expansion of the GetWet! Program.

Additional equipment needed for continuing the residential water testing as well as expanding the program to cover field testing of Blunts pond may be funded through a grant from Maine Community Foundation (MCF). Kerry will find out what, if any, other monitoring equipment is needed for work at Blunts Pond, and also if sampling would require some sort of water craft. The due date for the MCF grant application is February 15, 2018. An LCC subcommittee will meet on January 8, 2018 to draft / finalize the grant application. Diane mentioned that another source of funding may be available from Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund.

One of the requirements of the MCF grant application is that the LCC has a Mission Statement. After prolonged consideration, it was decided to have the official Mission Statement be: "The Lamoine Conservation Commission advocates for Lamoine's natural environment through educational outreach and compassionate stewardship."

Land Conservation Fund: Larissa has coordinated with Stu to have \$1,000 submitted in next year's budget.

Blunt's Pond Water Quality Testing: Kerry is waiting for the training to take place in May in Augusta.

Edible Classroom Garden: Diane will be talking with Chris at the school to determine the cost of materials to construct the raised beds and also the needed manpower / volunteers. It will likely be implemented this school year.

Blunt's Pond Day: Doug has been in touch with Zack Steele, the executive director at Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District to coordinate their resources to make presentations at the pond. The community field day at Blunt's Pond is tentatively scheduled for September 8, 2018.

Upcoming Presentation: Linda will touch base with Tora Johnson, GIS Director at UMaine Machias to see if she is available for a March presentation on Climate Change and the Effects on Our Shorelines.

Lamoine Quarterly: Larissa is submitting the final draft of Doug's notice for the sale of composting bins for the next quarterly.

Conservation Award: Nominations for the next award were discussed in private. Public nominations are welcome by December 29, 2017. Award to be announced at March Town Meeting.

Motions and Outcomes:

The minutes of the October 11, 2017 meeting were approved as distributed. (The meeting in November was a presentation by Dr. Francis Drummond on bumble bees. His presentation can be viewed at <http://townhallstreams.com/town.php?id=58>)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Minutes taken by _____ Jeff Cosulich _____
and approved on _____.