Lisbon Conservation Commission Minutes

The Conservation Commission met at Frank's Pub, at 6pm, January 29th, to address several issues. Members attending included Annica McGuirk, Richard Nadeau, Richard Main and staff advisor Mark Stevens.

Old Business: We discussed progress on addressing the need to remove invasive species from Town public spaces and displays. A small park located across from the Lisbon High School is the site of two Norway Maple trees which will crowd out - in the future - a large spruce tree which was planted as a memorial to a Lisbon resident. It was decided to seek monies, in the budget, for the removal of the two trees and grind the stump – completely removing the invasive species form the park. The PW department will remove, but a stump grinder will need to be rented or contracted.

We also determined that we needed to address the problem of all the invasive species and educate the residents of the community of the effects of the various species. Invasive species are a direct threat to what we value about Maine's natural landscapes. They destroy animal habitat and the very nature of the forest.

New Business: Annica reported on her efforts to contact the Maine Regional Forester and make a walking tour of Beaver Park. The Forest Management plan has been located and needs to be implemented. Annica and Mark will cruise the park with the forester. A perambulation of the property lines needs to be done, in preparation for a timber harvest. The intent of the harvest is to cause minimal destruction of the park, create new trails and create a revenue stream to upgrade facilities in the park.

Mark reported on the upcoming 2018 public spaces planting of flowers. Aubuchon Hardware donated some flower bulbs for planting in these spaces. Other donations will also be sought and accepted.

Members will report to the Town Council on February 6, 2018.

The February meeting will be at Frank's Pub, February 26, at 6 pm.

The members of the Commission set two goals for the upcoming year.

* + 1. Educate the residents of the threats of invasive species in public spaces and on private property.
    2. Implement the 2011 “Beaver Park Forest Management Plan.”

Richard Main, member.