Orford Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes of October 1, 2015 LCHIP Site Visit

Commissioners Present: Harry Pease, Carl Schmidt, Carl Cassel and Tom Bubolz; Alternates Present: Emily Bryant and Craig Putnam; Selectboard Representative, Anne Duncan Cooley; Land Owner, David Bischoff; UVLT, John Roe; LCHIP: Dijit Taylor, Executive Director, Paula Bellemore, Natural Resource Specialist and John Kanter, NH Fish and Game

The site visit began at 10:40 a.m.

After introductions Harry went over the plan for the two hour site visit. David Bischoff gave a brief history of the property and his stewardship activities. Harry talked about the importance to the Conservation Commission of conserving this property in the context of Orford’s Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). Specifically, this property includes six of the seven important natural resources included in the inventory, which are surface waters, wetlands, groundwater, agricultural lands, forest lands and wildlife habitat. The only natural resource this property does not include is floodplains. In addition, the property includes other features documented in the NRI that had been determined to be important to town residents. Those include scenic views and vistas, outdoor recreation opportunities, cultural and historic areas, air quality, noise level and dark skies. We then walked out the snowmobile trail to Mason Pond. Along the way John Roe talked about UVLT’s plans for public use of the property and its stewardship. On the walk back we answered questions from the LCHIP team and concluded the site visit by going into the cabin and the barn. Dijit told us decisions on LCHIP grant applications are expected to be announced on December 3 and 4.

The site visit ended at 12:30 p.m.

Harry Pease

Chair, Conservation Commission