

2011 Lincoln Conservation Commission Report

This year the Lincoln Conservation Commission (LCC) gained two new members: Ed Clark and Andrew Jones. The members were distracted by several personal situations – new babies, school, work, travel, and the like - and did not meet regularly.

However, we tried to keep up with some town issues, such as work in the bed of the New Haven River after Hurricane Irene, and the proposed solar array at the Town Shed. We probably could have been more involved in those issues as well as others; hopefully we will be less distracted in 2012.

The apple trees at Colby Hill Town Property that were pruned a few years ago with a WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Plan) grant are growing back nicely and producing fruit.

In April, the LCC aired a National Geographic film at the library about black bear expert Ben Kilham. Ninety people attended a program at the library the previous October when Ben came to speak on his work, so we knew that interest was high. Tina Scharf donated this DVD and Ben's book *Among the Bears* to the library, and they are available for anyone who would like to learn more.

We sent out several emails to townspeople in an effort to educate everyone about invasive poison parsnip. This plant is becoming more common in Lincoln. It is very prevalent in the Champlain Valley area of Addison County. We will continue this effort to encourage people to cut parsnip before flowering, on their own property and in their neighborhoods.

This year Jackie Tuxill retired from the LCC. Jackie was one of the founding members and a former chair, and we thank her heartily for all the work she has done for Lincoln in this capacity.

The LCC doesn't meet regularly, but any meetings we have will be warned at the Town Clerk's. Sometimes our "meetings" are work projects. If you are interested in joining the LCC, or participating in our work parties, feel free to contact us.

Additionally, the Addison County Regional Planning Commission could use another member from Lincoln. If you are interested in working in the larger community of which Lincoln is a part, please contact Steve Revell.

The Commission did not spend any of its monies in 2011; therefore our fiscal assets remain the same.

Tina Scharf, Chair
Ilana Brett
Ed Clark

Andrew Jones
Lisa Nading
Katie Manaras