

**Marshfield Conservation Commission**  
**112<sup>th</sup> Meeting**  
**7 June 2017**

Members attending: Annie Reed (Chair), Taber Allison, Allen Banbury, Steve Fisk, Ed Jalbert, Anne Miller

1. Minutes: Minutes for the May 3, 2017 meeting were approved with minor corrections of misspelled words/typos.

2. Treasurer's report

Conservation Fund, as of January 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$7,950.22
Interest	\$37
Sale of Booklets	\$12
Plant Sale	\$729.82
Plants purchased for the OSC	(\$70)
Balance as of May 17 <sup>th</sup>	\$8,659.77

Operating Budget	\$300
Display materials for town meeting	(\$7.37)
Arbor Day Conference, Sarah Norton	(\$40)
Balance, as of May 17 <sup>th</sup>	\$252.63

Annie asked Allen to ask Bobbie Brimblecombe to provide a report on Commission budget expenditures to all Commission members.

3. Card for Sarah Albert: Card thanking Sarah for her work in organizing the tree and shrub sale was passed around and signed.

4. Who has field trip sign up members?

People at town meeting indicated interest in participating in trips, such as to the Old Town Forest. The Commission has a spreadsheet that collects names of people who had expressed interest in MCC-sponsored field trips. The discussion was tabled and the spreadsheet will be located.

5. Update on status of Rachel as member

She is interested in continuing to participate on the Commission although she may no longer be living in Marshfield. All of the attending Commission members were unanimous in supporting Rachel's continued participation on the Commission.

It was noted that Conservation Commission meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend and participate in the Commission's activities

6. Presentation on Biofinder – presentation was tabled.

#### 7. Stranahan update

Discussion of the Committee's efforts to update the Stranahan Forest Plan. A proposal to support updating the Plan was submitted by the Committee to the Vermont Town Forest Recreation Planning Community Assistance Program last Thursday.

Visited parking area; members of the Committee did some work to create a 'shrub strip' to help screen the parking area.

#### 8. Natural Marshfield update

Taber gave a presentation on the Commissions project to document flora and fauna of the Town; dire weather warnings may have affected attendance

The presentation was rescheduled to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at the Jaquith Library.

Annie will contact Charlie Cogbill and ask him if he will advertise the presentation to the Upper Winooski Field Naturalists email list.

Steve will contact Bridget Butler to determine if she is willing to give a talk on wildlife corridors

Ed Jalbert volunteered to lead a walk on invasive species. Tentative date July 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 am, meet at the Jaquith library

8. Natural resource inventory update – Discussion tabled

9. Update on pamphlet – Discussion tabled

10. Report on Arbor Day Conference – Discussion tabled

#### 11. Invasives mapping

Time to begin mapping; members are encouraged to use iNaturalist to record the results of their mapping.

Wild chervil (a member of the carrot family) is rampant especially along major town thoroughfares, such as Route 2.

#### 12. Beaver Baffle update

Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> CCV Freshwater Ecology class is doing a community service activity to clean out a beaver baffle that has clogged and washed out the railroad bed (Cross VT/VAST trails) in Lanesboro.

The Commission discussed whether members could monitor and occasionally clean the beaver baffle located in Lanesboro

### 13. Phenology study update

No additional updates beyond what was discussed under Natural Marshfield.

### 14. Other business

There was discussion about the Energy Committee and siting of energy facilities. If a Town wants to have input into the siting of energy facilities within Town limits, then the Town needs to have an energy plan. The Energy Committee is considering drafting such a plan; the plan needs to be consistent with the Town Plan. The members discussed holding a joint meeting of the Commission and the Energy Committee. It was suggested that the Energy Committee take the lead in producing a draft for review by the Commission.

### 15. Announcements

Ed described a talk on invasive species on WGDR, June 8<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30 am; A discussion of permaculture and invasive species will be aired on WGDR June 14<sup>th</sup> 9-10 am. Details will be available on Front Porch Forum.

Steve discussed land around Molly's Reservoir now owned by the state. Fish and Wildlife still manage boat access; Forest, Parks and Recreation (FPR) manages the other land. There is interest by FPR in organizing a discussion of a plan for the land surrounding the Reservoir that is managed by the state.

There was brief discussion about raising funds for speakers to Natural Marshfield.

- June 10<sup>th</sup>, "Know your River", 1-3:30 Plainfield Opera House
- June 19<sup>th</sup>, "Private Road and Driveway Maintenance", Workshop 6-8:30 pm
- June 27<sup>th</sup>, First day of water quality sampling; sample every other Tuesday through September 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Would like to form a permaculture work group for the Old Schoolhouse Commons land; would like to develop a plan.

Shadbush (*Amelanchier* sp.) that was ordered for the Old Schoolhouse Common has arrived and has been planted.

Annie will miss the August 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Steve has agreed to send out the agenda. Steve will miss the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Meeting adjourns at 8:15.

Submitted On: 19 June 2017

Approved On: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By: Taber Allison