

Marshfield Conservation Commission  
133rd Meeting  
Meeting of 7 August 2019

Members Present: Taber Allison, Allen Banbury, Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Anne Miller, Bob Popp, Annie Reed

Visitors: Scott Williams and Lynn Tetrano

Minutes: July minutes approved with minor corrections

Treasurers Report: No change from last month except received some add'l funds from book sales.

Other Business: Forest Farmers Inc.

- Plan to have an open house soon perhaps by the end of the month, probably late afternoon during the week. It would include a walkover of the property
- There are concerns re. stormwater runoff so will have the county forester, wetlands biologist and Forest Legacy forester walk the property to provide guidance. According to co.forester they need to upgrade a gravel road to accommodate higher use and divert runoff from a replaced culvert.
- Ca 1/5 of 200 ac is presently being tapped.
- Have 3 lines: A,B and D. C was abandoned due to wetlands concerns. All but D should be producing sap this year.
- Lords & Devils Hill lines are built along with Drew Mt.
- Hope to install infrastructure on Hardwood Mt by 2021
- Will create a DART landing on one of their pads to provide for emergency evacuation should the need arise.
- They will also offer the use of a 4 wheeler which can hold a stokes basket for woodland evacuations.
- They will provide 100 ft buffers from streams & wetlands although only required to have a 50 ft.
- They have cut all of the ash proactively on the property along with some other species that are shading their crop trees.

RAMP Meeting

- Transportation committee: no meeting
- Energy: technology is available to replace older woodstoves with more efficient ones. Town will look into bulk purchase. Also looking into retrofitting Twinfield to make more energy efficient.

Natural Marshfield

- Program on snakeworms. Three species, all invasive from Japan
- Outcompete native worms and consume leaf litter so forest becomes drier.
- Remain close to surface as opposed to other worms

- Aug 28 Michael Sabourin will discuss ticks
- Sept 25 Dept of Health will discuss radon

### Invasives

- Anne & Tabor found lots of poison parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) on Ennis Hill

### Stranahan Town Forest: Ed

- New mgt plan is still in progress. Stranahan committee has subcommittees working on various aspects
- Want to do construction on Thompson Rd including ditches and dips to increase drainage in 3 areas:
  - By parking lot
  - South of Gunsey Brk
  - Short steep slope no of Guensey Brook to cellar hole
- Estimate of \$12,000 for all three areas with the intent that it come from the stewardship fund, the John Warshow memorial fund and donations as needed and would not need town funds.
- Suggestion to incorporate stormwater ponds to capture runoff.
- Moonfield Trail still wet up to sugar woods. Considered rerouting but will try to ditch & drain.
- Members expressed concern about source of any fill so that invasive plants are not spread throughout the forest.
- Thompson Rd by Maple Lane Trail will be relocated to west about 20 ft for hikers & bikers for about 75 ft. Snowmobiles etc will continue to use Thompson Rd.
- Work day to implement this will be on the Sunday, Aug 25<sup>th</sup>
- Lot off Pitkin Rd is being sold and new owners may get key to gate from town to drive in Thompson Rd via Pitkin Rd.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 12 August 2019

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_