

Marshfield Conservation Commission

79th Meeting

6 March, 2013

Members Attending: Tony Mayhew, Allen Banbury, Brett Engstrom, Steve Fiske, and Bob Popp

Review of Minutes: February minutes accepted as presented. Approved unanimously

Financial Report: - amounts are approximate

- Conservation Fund as of Jan 1st was \$4,295.67
- Operating Fund is now \$300 and runs thru the calendar year
- Expenses for the plant sale are \$1,043
- Likely another \$100+ in funds from the book not included in the above figures.

Discussion of Town Meeting:

- Seemed that fewer people stopped by our display at Town meeting; so perhaps we need to change the display. Few ideas were suggested:
 - Photos of participants from field trips.
 - Display on town wetlands
 - Provide a brief report of our activities & field trips
 - Invite Stranahan Stewardship Com to provide material
 - Provide video/powerpoint prior to meeting or during lunch
- Sold a few natural history books at Marshfield meeting and none at Plainfield meeting

Natural History Book:

- Decided that since sold only 3 copies, we would not reprint at this time. Agreed unanimously.

Spring Plant Sale:

- Allen has begun to distribute flyers for the sale. He is entering orders into a spreadsheet and giving checks to Bobbi.
- Nikko Rubin will purchase any leftover blueberry plants
- Tony has put displays around the area.
- Pickup will be Saturday, April 27th from 9 to 11. Packing orders will be the preceding Friday at 5 PM, the 26th. Volunteers are needed for both Friday and Saturday.
- Thanks to Allen for organizing the sale.

Vermont Association of Conservation Commissions

Motion: to pay \$50 fee to join VACC and suggest that each member join the listserve. Approved unanimously.

- Brett inquired whether VACC has an office or paid staff. Nobody knew for certain.

Note: subsequent to the meeting Allen determined that there is no fee to join VACC and that anyone can join the listserve.

Stranahan Town Forest

- There was a charge from the SB to recommend a percentage of the receipts from the STF for a dedicated stewardship fund. Members felt that the best way to resolve this was by a joint meeting with the Stranahan stewardship Committee;
- One suggestion was to cover the taxes and the remainder go to the stewardship fund; another was to split any income 50:50. Another was to include all 3 town properties.
- Members brainstormed some uses of the fund to include:
 - Road/parking lot maintenance & repair; plowing parking lot
 - Construction of 2nd parking area;
 - Trail, boundary markers and trail maps.
 - Boundary survey;
 - Storm damage to clean up debris, replace culverts, etc
 - Hiring VYCC crew for trail work
 - Educational, internship possibilities thru Barre Tech center
 - Collaboration with Twinfield for outdoor education.
- Some citizens are concerned about the timber sale proposed for next year. Feel that the existing forestry plan is a draft that does not include the smaller wetlands or the natural community map, which require a buffer via the easement.
- Suggestion to discuss the proposed logging along with the stewardship endowment at the joint meeting.
- **Bob** will contact Diana and get us on the agenda.

Note: following the meeting Bob spoke with Ed who agreed to have the joint meeting.

Meeting: **Monday, the 18th at 6 PM at OSC.**

Old Town Forest:

- Drew Mt. Assoc has mistakenly tapped trees on the town property
- Brett will go out to the property and determine how many taps are on the OTF.
- Selectbd is now considering tapping the remainder of the trees on the property
- There is a timber cruise for the property but no forestry plan.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted On: 14 March 2013

Approved: _____

Approved On: _____