

## Marshfield Conservation Commission

### 118<sup>th</sup> Meeting

7 March 2018

Members Attending: Taber Alison, Allen Banbury, Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Ann Miller, Bob Popp, Annie Reed (Chair), and Sara Norton

Minutes: February minutes approved unanimously as amended.

Treasurer's Report: No Update

Update on Pamphlet: Sara

- Designers will meet later this week and revise the pamphlet per our feedback including revising some of the diagrams.
- Steve suggested adding some Act 171
- **Steve** will send Sara some proposed wording. Note: this was subsequently done & incorporated into the pamphlet.

Natural Marshfield: Anne

- Tom Wessels presentation on Thurs, May 3<sup>rd</sup> on Self Organization in Nature probably at Goddard
- Joe Roman April 11<sup>th</sup> from Gund Inst presentation on Economics of Conservation
- We will cover gas mileage; approved unanimously to be taken out of Operation Fund.

Stranhan Forest: Ed

- Stewardship Committee plans to have results of survey in May
- Had discussion of wetland classes on forest and their degree of protection; noted there is no protection for Class 3 wetlands. If protected all Class III, would preclude logging on most of the forest. Committee plans to investigate how VLT deals with this in other easement properties.

Watershed Grants: Bob

- Focus areas are Protect or restore water quality, and shorelines; Protect or restore fish and wildlife habitats; Educate people about watershed resources
- Education and outreach – up to \$5,000  
Planning, assessment, inventory, monitoring – up to \$3,500  
On-the-ground implementation – up to \$10,000
- Application deadline is January 15, 2018; applicants notified in February

- Requires standard State Insurance coverage
- Bob thought we could apply under inventory & mgt for \$3500 & attempt to match with other funds. Also consider a Mun Plng Grant depending on theme this year.

#### Tree and Shrub Sale: Anne

- Brochures were distributed at town meetings
- Plainfield has a grant to match their portion of the sale; Trees for local communities from FPR
- FoW plans major planting at MCB, Steve provided a list of species, all of which are native.
- Steve will request permission from SB on March 20<sup>th</sup> for the plantings
- April 27<sup>th</sup> Packing orders: 4 till ?: Allen, Anne, Ed
- April 28<sup>th</sup> : Distribution: 9 – 11: Steve, Taber, Anne, Allen

#### Act 171 discussion:

- Members were sent the A171 guidance document; link at <http://anr.vermont.gov/sites/anr/files/Act171Draft%20121417.pdf>
- We need to coordinate with the Energy Committee re. timing for revision of Town Plan
- Approx 6 mos timeline to amend the Town Plan & include maps
- Assigned Tasks:
  - Draft Maps: Steve & Bob
  - Identify forest blocks & corridors: Bob, Annie, Anne
  - Assessment of Blocks via windshield survey: Steve & Sarah
  - Coordination w/ Energy Com: Anne & Taber
  - Road Kill Group:
    - Game Warden Contact: Allen & Anne
    - INaturalist: Taber
  - Overlap w/ UVA parcels: Annie.

- Note: subsequent to the meeting we were contacted by Melissa Seifert who informed us that the RPC would not approve the Town Plan unless it addressed Act 171 so our timeline is presumably shorter than initially thought..

Submitted on: 12 March 2018

Approved on: 4 April 2018

Submitted by Bob Popp