

Marshfield Conservation Commission

120th Meeting

2 May18

Members Attending: Allen Banbury, Steve Fiske, Anne Miller, Ed Jalbert, and Sara Norton, Bob Popp, and Rachel Rudi

Minutes: May minutes approved unanimously as presented.

Treasurers Report: Allen

- Balance of Conservation Fund \$9,868
- Operating Budget \$249; spent \$51 for Natural Marshfield speaker.

Plant Sale: Anne

- Not all income and bills have been tabulated.
- Anne will refund some purchase price for pippins apple that were undersized
- Steve planted 12 cedars, 6 red maples, and 8 elderberries planted along Winooski with help from a few Twinfield students. These were purchased by the Friends of Winooski.

Wildlife Pamphlet: Sara showed us the completed pamphlet. The members all thanked her for her great effort. The pamphlet has been received with great interest from other towns and organizations.

- Sara provided some copies to the Agriculture Agency for their resource table
- Copies also provided to the NE Wilderness Trust, North Branch Nature Center and TNC
- Heinsburg, Montpelier, & Waitsfield Conservation Commissions
- Regional Planning Commission

Natural Marshfield Series: Anne

- Received a grant from Block Foundation to support Tom Wessels talk
- Talk is also supported by Plnflld Con Com and libraries of both towns
- Will have a person from extension lead a walk on 2nd Sunday in July to view EAB impacted trees.

Stranahan Town Forest: Ed

- Stranahan Committee is asking MCC to provide guidance on how to deal with small unmapped (Class III) wetlands. A number of these were missed with the original mapping, but are presently displayed on a recent map
- They apparently range in size from a couple of acres to few hundred ft sq.
- They are not protected in the easement language but haven't heard back from VLT as to their thoughts
- Possibilities include:
 - Treat like original wetlands and fully protect them;
 - Re-delineate them prior to any potential impact from logging, etc. with ca. 25 - 50 ft buffer and avoid impacts. Could also prioritize them at that point.
 - Probably OK to cut within wetland but no skidding; would need to use a cable skidder to remove logs from the wetland without entering it
- **Ed will draft a response** and will share with the committee at next meeting.

Upper Winooski Forest Flood Resilience Project: Steve

- Steve has been attending meetings
- Have identified parcels in Plnfld, Marshfld , Cabot that are not in UVA to encourage them to join.
- Landowners will be encouraged to maintain forest cover in order to promote flood resistance
- Looking for three landowners for demonstration projects; one in each town.

Act 171: Bob and Steve

- Steve showed the final map that he and Bob developed with the RPC. It shows Highest priority Forested and Habitat Blocks, Riparian Features, Rare Physical Landscapes, and road crossings. The latter are conceptualized rather than at a specific point.
- The map also includes small portions of neighboring towns so we have an indication of what features are adjacent to Marshfield.
- Bob reviewed the draft narrative addressing Act 171 to be inserted into the town plan with the committee.

- **Bob will address** the comments he received and also add some discussion regarding the conceptualized road crossings and then he will forward it to the Planning Commission for their review.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 6 May 2018

Accepted on: _____