

Marshfield Conservation Commission  
141st Meeting  
Meeting of 3 June, 2020 via Zoom

Members Present: Taber Allison, Allen Banbury, Ed Jalbert, Bradley Materick, Anne Miller, Sara Norton, Bob Popp and Annie Reed

Minutes: May Minutes: Approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report:

- Bobbi reported that we have not received any funds from Plant Sale as yet.
- Ann Miller checked with Plainfield Town Clerk who will send the funds to Bobbi soon
- We need an invoice from AVCC to renew our membership. Allen has requested an invoice from AVCC and will follow up with Bobbi tomorrow

Update on Roadside Ash Inventory

- John Fowler Rd and Feratti Rd have not been completed
- Also a number of roads in the Village need to be done.
- Patty Crossing & LaFiera Place.
- **Ed** will send a copy of the map depicting what needs to be done.

EAB Management Plan

- Meeting at 4:30 to discuss a response plan for EAB
- Purple trap installed on Marshfield end of Bean Road just off Maple Hill.
- Need to install one add'l trap
- **Bob** will look for proposed location
- Annie suggested somewhere on Rte 232
- Bradley suggested putting in area of ash concentration
- Ed mentioned that state guidelines call for leaving ash of mixed diameters

Natural Marshfield

- Bradley offered to come up with some suggestions and work with Anne on future talks.
- Apparently allowed to have up to 25 people. Anne concerned about how to limit people since people tend not to RSVP.
- Bradley suggests planning only a few trial talks rather than full slate to see how it works
- Also suggested a trial field trip to MCB to gauge interest in socially distant field trips

Suggestions for future presentations:

- Bat discussion with Alyssa Bennett of VT Fish & Wildlife.
- Field trips with specific focus
- Herp presentation with Jim Andrews who oversees the Reptile & Amphibian Atlas. Perhaps better to wait until Covic is past since Jim charges to support the Atlas so we'd need a critical mass to make it worthwhile.
- Natural history of Corona virus
- Stargazing

- Unsustainable life styles and how it is detrimentally affecting the planet, i.e. EAB Covic19 in addition to the obvious climate change.

#### Meeting with CVNRCD June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Annie Reed, Bradley Materick , Gianna Petito (NRCD), and Bob Popp

- The NRCD got the grant and have field interns doing ash inventories in Orange & Williamstown
- Gianna wants to develop a response plan with each of the three towns: Plainfield & Cabot in addition to us.
- Response plan will be one for each town
  - Gianna will draft as much as she can and highlights decision points
  - Would be incorporated into hazard mitigation plan
  - Would need to get SB approval and public outreach.
- Marshfield road crew doesn't do tree removal. So could put out an RFP for removal.
- Question about funding for response since town would not act otherwise.
- Plan could be used as a planning tool to convince SB to act sooner rather than later.
- State has a calculator of likely hazard based on dbh
- West of Rte 2 WEC is doing proactive cutting. As is GMP
- Might be some funding available from state. Gianna will follow up with WEC. She has funding for replanting if site is near a stream
- Plan will focus on dealing with hazard tree; it is not a EAB management plan.
- We will need to communicate the hazard threat to the public.
- Need a disposal site for cut ash where wood will not be moved resulting in further spread.
- Decision makers: SB, road foreman, tree warden, and CC.
- See Urban & community forestry website for add'l information
- Priority for removal is dead & leaning over the road.
- The focus is entirely on roadsides not cultural such as town green, etc.
- CVRPC can provide maps of ash locations in a larger format.
- Can map clusters of ash. But depends on where to focus

Continuation of MCC Meeting on 10 June

Taber Allison, Ed Jalbert, Bradley Materick, Anne Miller, Sara Norton, Bob Popp and Annie Reed

Continuation of Natural Marshfield brainstorming see above

Report on Meeting with CVNRCD: see above

#### Stranahan Town Forest

- Forest is closed to all formal presentation and trips.
- Ravine trail is closed due to nesting birds.

#### Conservation Lands

- Meeting with Nancy Everhart was cancelled due to Corona Virus

### New members

- Welcome to Bradley who will replace Rachel Rudi who chose not to be reappointed.
- Bradley got emails from Rose Paul and Greg Western re. his suggestion to walk on the railbed which is apparently still in private ownership.
- Greg from Cross VT Trail would like to come talk to the MCC about the status of the trail and how we might protect it.

### Basin Clean Water Block Grant

- No information, tabled

### New Business:

- Tracy is willing to reformat the pamphlet to be web site\_compatible so we could put it on the website.
- Would make it easier to email and/or distribute.
- **Bob** will put it on the website once it is formatted and in pdf form

### Announcements

- Members installed two EAB traps: one on Bean Rd and other Bean Rd by Folsom Hill Rd.
- Ed may move one from Folsom Hill Rd to an area north of Rte 2.
- **Bob** will check location the other location to determine whether it is appropriate.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 15 June, 2020

Approved on: 1 July 2020