

Marshfield Conservation Commission

201st Meeting 5 November 2025

Old Schoolhouse and Zoom

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Anne Miller, Mary Perchlik, Bob Popp, Lloyd Potter, Annie Reed, Emily Wilmers and Amanda Wojtalik-Courter,

Non-Members: None

Minutes: October minutes approved unanimously as presented

Treasurers Report: No activity in last month

- **Ann** will get the balance of the Operation Fund and report back

Future Facilitators:

December: Emily

January: Annie

February: Lloyd

Martin Bridge Update:

- Lloyd has appended the Operation Plan to the Mgt Plan.
- We still need to coordinate with Operations Committee re any inconsistencies between the plans.
- **Lloyd** will contact Nathan Phillips to review the collated plans and include Bob.

Plaque for Rich Phillips.

- Bob sent email to SB offering to contribute towards a plaque for Rich. The SB is interested but wants to know the wording & placement.
- **Amanda** will draft some wording and send to the committee for review
- **Lloyd** will investigate cost
- FPR wants to plant three trees for demonstration purposes: bare root, potted and burl & burlap. This **Friday, the 7th at 9**

Water Quality Monitoring:

- Steve needs volunteers to sort bugs for half day at VTClub in Randolph.
- Date is Tuesday, Nov 18th from 9 to 12. **Ed and Bob** will assist.

Invasives

- Invasives pamphlet
 - Ed and Annie plan to draft pamphlet on Goutweed, honeysuckles, barberries, garlic mustard, buckthorns and knotweed.
 - They will discuss why they are bad for the environment and offer management suggestions other than herbicides.
- Knotweed control
 - Mad River group recommends cutting and piling on a tarp and constrained by a corral. Checking periodically for spreading.
 - **Bob** will contact the Craftsbury Con Com re. using their Knotweed brochure. However they do mention using herbicides on especially large populations with the caveat that the commission does not promote the practice.
- Tool lending library
 - The library currently lend out tools, and we would add our weed pullers to the mix. We have three pullers and would need to reserve any tools for our work days we have planned.
 - **Lloyd, Ed and Bob** currently have the three weed wrenches

Old Schoolhouse:

- Removed pine slash & planted 4 plum trees.
- Blueberry plantings with Resilience Hub. Steve prepped an area for blueberry plantings next spring.
- Waterfall Property:
 - Resilience Hub folks are interested in doing planting on some of the FEMA properties

Ash Inventory

- Annie and Ed with others are repeating the town wide inventory done in 2020 of all ash trees above 3 inches within 25 ft of road.
- Black ash are doing the worst; white ash doing better.

AVCC Regional Meeting

- Bob attended meeting on 11 Oct in Hardwick.
- Sharing session among the ca 19 commissions attending
- Presentations on knotweed, land conservation by N Rivers LT, and flood resilience.
- Breakout sessions on acquiring & stewarding public lands, floodplain & climate resilience

- Suggestion to have a joint meeting with Plainfield and Cabot sometime next year to brainstorm joint projects.

Update on FEMA properties

- Bob has visited all six properties; all buyouts are completed and all infrastructure removed from four properties
- He is drafting an assessment of the properties for the Select Bd and will share with members.
- Friends of the Winooski has been in touch re. plantings trees on some of the properties. Bob will share the assessments with them and solicit their input. Also suggested applying for the AVCC small grants program to purchase trees. Up to \$800 grants available **with deadline of 11 April**. The plantings would need to occur in the fall.
- Concern about adverse possession and timber trespass if the parcel boundaries are not adequately marked and the properties not visited regularly.
- Caleb Corliss is new outdoor coordinator for Twinfield and is interested in Soccer Field Rewilding project.

Fundraising

- Consider selling old outdoor equipment at library sale or fall foliage festival or Marshfield farmers market.
- Amanda **requested donations** of tools/gardening equipment, art, nature books/guides, or outdoor enthusiast materials (cameras, binocs, microscopes, camping gear, etc) to begin assessing the feasibility of a rummage sale/auction.
- Possibility of asking SBd for add'l funding if we have a project in mind.
- Need to revisit our by laws and determine invoicing the Operations vs the Conservation Fund.
- **Bob** will search records and out whatever information re. by laws

Other Business None

Submitted By: Bob Popp

Submitted On: 7 November 2025

Approved On: 3 December 2025