

Marshfield Conservation Commission  
161st Meeting (Via Zoom)  
5 April, 2022  
Minutes

Members Attending: Taber Allison, Luke Boushee, Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Bradley Materick, Anne Miller, Sarah Norton, Bob Popp, Annie Reed

Non-members: Brett Engstrom and Matt Peters.

1. Approval of November Minutes: Tabled

2. Treasurer's report: Bradley

- No changes

3 Natural Resources Inventory Project: Bob & Taber

- Bob & Taber discussed the inventory at Select Bd meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup>. The SB requested we post an announcement on FPF which Taber has done. The SB requested that contractor have liability insurance although they were flexible on minimum amount. They also provided the standard VT LCT contract which we can modify and requested that Town funds be utilized by end of calendar year. Taber is contact to approve invoices.
- **Brett and Matt** will provide insurance certificates;
- We need to change the amount on the contract template to reflect their current coverage;
- Matt will be the primary contractor and Brett will be subcontractor;
- They are pretty sure they will deplete the town funding by the end of the year but report likely won't be finished until 2023 so can use MCC Conservation Funds for that;
- Plan to get priority site list completed by 15 May so MCC can work on permission;
- Likely this would be done mostly by phone with some followup with letters as needed;
- We need to develop a protocol for documenting permissions;
- **Bradley** offered to create a Google Doc so folks can share LO permission information in our shared docs;
- Brett suggested MCC members interview local folks to provide information about special places. This would be done as part of Landscape Analysis;
- Vernal pools might be prioritized for early season visits so they can be verified as breeding pools;

- **Annie** will search for the Keeping Track Maps we did some years ago;
- Matt & Brett were not planning to do a habit connectivity block analysis but can incorporate any information that is new and tweak our existing connectivity map;
- **Bradley** offered to take the lead on wildlife habitat analysis;
- There was general consensus to not conduct field work on Groton S.F but would include significant natural communities and rare occurring there in the final report;
- The subcommittee needs to determine how to interview folks and develop a protocol;
- Suggestion for **Taber, Brett, Matt and Bob** meet to discuss next steps.

#### 4. Watershed Grant

- We were awarded the watershed grant!!!
- Entails evaluation of aquatic natural communities and identification of macro invertebrates;
- Will focus on Guensey, Nasmith, Lye and Marshfield Brooks;
- Final Report is due 1.31.23;
- Intend to hire contractor to ID inverts with most of the \$2,528 in funding.
- Will need help in Sept/Oct to sort samples and preserve them. Probably need 2 days w/ 3 people each day;
- The report will provide a list of species and their abundance by stream
- Members thanked Steve, Ed & Luke for developing the successful grant proposal.

#### 5. Tiny Grant

- Ed drafted a proposal for \$275 for two weed wrenches; one large and one small
- Deadline for submission is the 8<sup>th</sup>; Ed would appreciate review and comments by this Thursday evening

#### 6. Plant Sale

- Each of three towns expected to get \$500-600 each
- Sorting of orders is on **Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>** probably at Bram Tobin's barn.
- Distribution date is **Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**
- Annie offered raspberries but need to dig them. This will happen on **Sat, the 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM**
- Folks need to **call Anne at 426-3100** to offer assistance.

#### 7. Discussion of meeting location

- Default for future meetings will be in person with virtual option;
- Need someone to be in charge of technology to arrange for virtual option;

8. Stranahan Management Plan

- Management was approved by SB

9. Water Quality Sampling

- Starting to sample 2<sup>nd</sup> half of April and then every two weeks thereafter.

10. Field Trips:

- Wildflower Walk is scheduled for Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>
- Bird Walk is scheduled for Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> with rain date of the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- If wish to assist, contact Brett re. Wildflower Walk and Taber re. the Bird Walk.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 10 April 2022

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_