

Marshfield Conservation Commission  
166<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Sept 7th, 2022 at Old Schoolhouse

Members Present: Luke Boushee, Ed Jalbert, Bradley Materick, Anne Miller, Sarah Norton (1st half only), Bob Popp, and Annie Reed

Minutes: Approve unanimously as presented

Treasurer's Report: Bradley

- Received funds for both the Watershed and Invasives Grants.
- These funds are earmarked for invertebrate identification and weed wrenches.
- Ed has not yet purchased the weed wrenches; will do so this month with the goal of having a Demo Day at Eaton Cemetery access to Stranahan on **Sat, Oct 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.**
- Ed will also bring the town brush saw.
- Annie suggested **brainstorming other areas needing NNIS control at next meeting.** Bob suggested focus on public lands or adjacent lands.
- We also need to decide on future plantings following NNIS removal.

Watershed Grant: Steve via email

- The QAPP (Quality Assurance Plan) was approved by DEC
- All macroinvertebrate samples have been collected at Nasmith, Marshfield, Lye, Guernsey & Turtlehead Brooks.
- Steve needs help picking thru the specimens. Will occur at the state lab at Randolph Voc Tec. Tentatively on Sept 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>.

Pollinator Garden: Steve via email

- Steve said buckwheat would not be tilled under.
- Bee the Change did some add'l plantings
- He added that no more watering would be needed.

Natural Resource Inventory Update: Tabor via email

- Contractors are apparently moving along on schedule with only few more field days remaining.

Knotweed at Gravel Pit: Bob

- Bob followed up with Bobbi who said that Scott from the Road Crew said they would only take material out of the pit in the case of an emergency. They use the pit as a disposal site for ditching material, though, so if you remove the knotweed, it is likely to be reintroduced.
- Bobbi also mentioned that the Selectboard would not have an issue with us removing it.
- Bob agreed to check with Agency of Agriculture as to whether we are permitted to use herbicides on town land as agents of the town.
- Members agreed to treat the knotweed if allowed, the last week of Sept. Ed, Bradley & Annie all expressed interest. Bob will contact Tovar.

- **Note** Bob got the following information from the Agency of Ag. We may only use Class C herbicides. Class B would require Certification. It is not clear whether Class C herbicides would accomplish our goals. See
- <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/sites/agriculture/files/documents/PHARM/Pesticides/SUMMARY%20of%20the%20Vt%20Regs%20for%20Control%20of%20Pesticides.pdf>

Martin covered Bridge:

- Rich Phillips stated that there is no complete management plan; only a draft copy.
- Rich suggested we let the SB know of our interest to create a management plan to address the following:
  - Forestry activity if any
  - Mowing regime for fields. He notes that mowing is creeping into the wetland.
  - Dates for mowing
  - Brushhogging around stone circle rather than mowing.
- Bob and Bradley expressed interest in finalizing the plan next year.
- Suggestion to first check the grant
- **Bradley** will scan the draft plan which we'll discuss at next meeting

Other Business:

- Fall Foliage Celebration on Sunday, the 25<sup>th</sup>. Suggestion to have a table to discuss the Natural Res Inventory. **Anne and Annie** will set this up but looking for other to help staff it.
- Suggestion to use Operation Fund to purchase a Zoom account at ca. \$15/month. Suggestion to share account with other committees. **Bradley** will pursue this.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 18 Sept, 2022

Approved on: 5 October, 2022