

Marshfield Conservation Commission
148th Meeting
6 January, 2021 via Zoom

Members Present: Taber Allison, Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Bradley Materick, Anne Miller, Sarah Norton, Bob Popp, and Annie Reed

Non-Members: None

Minutes: December Minutes approved unanimously as presented

Treasurer's report: None Presented

Plantings at Old Shcoolhouse Common

- Steve purchased green sand and mineral mix that came to ca. \$95
- All the trees have been planted and fenced similar to the apple trees and mulched with tree bark
- Trunks were protected from mice by tree tubes.

Martin Covered Bridge

- Town signed easement with Friends of Winooksi for additional planting. Adjusted easement to go out to 2035 and allow planting throughout forest riparian buffer
- Easement requires FoW to obtain approval of MCC of planting list each year.

Future Projects: Roundtable

Ed: Would like investigate selling carbon credits from three town owned parcels. There is an acreage threshold to enroll.

- Would need MCC, Stranahn Com, Energy Com and SB approval
- Would need to have inventory to determine amount of carbon on the property, and then manage towards maintaining or increasing that carbon level.
- Required to put some funds in escrow for ongoing inventory to ensure compliance
- Suggestion to see if other properties are interested such as Forest Farmers.
- Members were supportive of researching further
- **Ed** will investigate. **Note** he and Bob attended a webinar on 1/14 by VT Coverts.

Bob: Would like to complete a natural areas inventory of the town but feels that this is not the best time due to the poor economy. Mentioned that Calais inventory was funded thru floor vote at Town Meeting. Cabot paid for theirs thru a Special Fund from Cabot Creamery supplemented by their Conservation Fund.

- Suggestion to explore using stimulus funds

- Taber asked about the costs and questioned whether with inkind labor and a SB contribution could do it with Conservations Funds
- Sara suggested figuring out the cost and determining how much we can do in house.
- **Bob** will check with Gary Gulka re cost of Cabot inventory and their CC involvement.
- Form subgroup of everyone but Anne and Allen (?) chaired by Taber.
- Note: Taber and Bob subsequently met with Gary Gulka on 1/14 to discuss the inventory

Bradley: Would like to continue the Natural Marshfield series

- Would have to be on Zoom which could attract greater participation and also a wider array of speakers.
- Suggestion to post presentations from other towns on FPF; email links to Bradley and he will post on FPF
- **Bradley** will touch base with Salisbury Con Com to determine what is involved in their speakers program.

Annie: Continue the tree and shrub sale to garner more funds, but place orders earlier. Sarah Alpert will be the lead this year.

Steve: Wants to plant more trees at Old Schoolhouse Common and

- Continue water quality monitoring and stream designation.
- Focus on town property on railbed off Depot Road.
- Pursue riparian easements utilizing DEC funding. Sarah will assist as needed.

New Business:

- **Bob** will draft Annual Report and send out to members probably before next meeting on Feb 3rd
- Stranahan Update:
 - One member of committee has resigned
 - Still working on management plan
 - Committee will flag areas of Thompson Rd to maintain rather than restore as old field.
- Cross VT Trail
 - Bradley will contact Greg Western to learn of any progress.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 17 January 2021

Approved on: 3 February 2021