

# Marshfield Conservation Commission

## 115<sup>th</sup> Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> October. 2017

Members Attending: Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Anne Miller, Sarah Norton, Bob Popp, Annie Reed (Chair), and Rachel Rudi

Minutes: September minutes approved unanimously as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Anne and Allen attended the AVCC annual meeting; registration fee of \$80 covered by Operation Fund.

### Old Schoolhouse Plantings:

- Steve, Anne, and Annie met onsite and selected two sites along the edge of the fields. Annie prefers to co-locate the plantings rather than scattering them.
- Select Bd approved the plantings but wants some signage.
- Town has brushhogged the planting site. The Commission thanked them for their prompt response to our request.
- Ed offered to dig up elderberries at Wilmer Brant's property
- Steve will check inventory at Nicko's; possibly 6 or so apple or pears are available at no charge to us.
- Anne will provide fencing & Ed will provide posts
- Planting dates Oct 28 or Nov 4<sup>th</sup>. **Please respond to Steve about date preference**
- **Motion** to approve up to \$70 from Operation Fund to cover materials for plantings. Approved unanimously

### Town Plan Comments:

- Planning Commission is meeting tomorrow night to discuss the changes to the plans; we're invited to participate.
- Energy Committee would coordinate w/ MCC for Act 174 addendum. If town has an approved plan, then the town would have standing with siting of future energy projects.
- **Motion** to approve Bob and Steve's comments to the PC pending Anne's & Ed's reading of them. Approved unanimously with 2 abstentions.
- **Bob** will collate comments and resend to the committee.

### Natural Marshfield:

- Anne heard presentation on the economics of conservation by Joe Roman of the UVM Gund Institute at the AVCC Annual Meeting. His conclusion is that towns with more conserved land had lower taxes. Upon Anne's request he agreed to provide a presentation for us.
- We may need to provide some funding to cover his costs.
- Date will be Wednesday, Dec 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Ben Killam will present at Celebrity Naturalist Series on his work with bears.
- It will be on Tuesday, Nov 7<sup>th</sup> probably at Goddard.
- The Series has approximately \$396 remaining. May need add'l \$25 contribution from the MCC to cover the cost.

- **Motion** to approve payment as needed to support both speakers. Approved unanimously

Stranahan Stewardship Committee update:

- SSC tentatively approved a new mt. bike trail across the Moon Field from break in stone wall and access track thru field to Uncle
- Ed wants to drop a tree in Hollister Hill lot but he has not been able to find the lot unoccupied.

Wildlife Pamphlet

Sarah would like some feedback on the pamphlet idea. Will discuss next month.

Harvest Festival:

- Need to set up our table for harvest festival around 11
- **Allen** had agreed to steward the display and will pack it up.
- **Bob** will check in with Allen. Note subsequent to the meeting Bob called Allen who acknowledged that he would attend and be responsible for our display.

Announcements:

- Sunday Oct 15<sup>th</sup> Beautiful trees of Stranahan walk led by Brett Engstrom 1 to 4 starting from Hollister Hill parking area.
- Bob will present tutorial on Biofinder next month.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 8 Oct 2017

Approved on: 1 November 2017