

Marshfield Conservation Commission

111th Meeting

3 May 2017

Members Attending: Allen Banbury, Steve Fiske, Rachel Rudi, Sara Norton, Anne Miller, Bob Popp, Steve Fiske, and Annie Reed (Chair)

Minutes: April minutes approved unanimously with minor changes

Treasurers Report: No changes from last month.

Plant Sale:

- Probably netted ca. \$1400; approximate since some invoices outstanding
- Sarah Alpert from Plainfield will not organize the sale next year; Anne Miller is willing to do it.
- Sarah suggested sending a card from all of us to thank Sarah Alpert for her many years of organizing the sale. A letter was drafted and
- **Annie** will get a card for us to sign at next meeting.

Letter in support of CVRPC grant application

- CVRPC wants to submit a grant thru Hi Meadows Fund to study the forest dynamics up and down the Winooski in Cabot, Marshfield & Plainfield.
- The focus is on upland forest areas' impact on downstream conditions and how maintaining unfragmented forest can improve water quality conditions downstream
- Study how intact forest cover can improve water quality and reduce storm damage
- They are seeking letters of support and possible participation from the 3 towns
- Members agreed to draft a letter of support
- **Steve** will draft a letter

Phenology Study: Taber

- We're most interested in plant phenology & invasives
- Focus will be on plants since birds already well covered by Ebird, but we will accept any data on any taxonomic group that is provided
- We will use iNaturalist to gather data. They already have curators who confirm the report
- iNaturalist also has an app where can take a photo with phone and it automatically records your location.
- Folks need to set up their own accounts, but could also set up a subscription where we'd receive all records from town of Marshfield and could verify &/or identify them
- Suggestion to include wildlife sightings, especially of road crossings sightings
- Taber will give a presentation for the Naturalist Series on 18th of May
- **Annie** will post announcement on FPF

Natural Marshfield:

- Anne suggesting taking off June & July since attendance has been down
- Bob's presentation on Vermont rare plants had about 14 attendees which is a good turnout

Riparian Plantings

- Everything is planted but shadbush which has not yet arrived.
- Cost is ca. \$70 for the trees

Update on Stranahan

- Anne went to Stranahan Stewardship Com mtg (SSC)
- Trees have been removed from to create the new parking area
- SSC want to map the wetlands on the property
- Sara Fowler is now the repository for contracts for the forest, but unsure if she is monitoring compliance
- Annie has been asked to guide the invasive control; Annie inquired whether members of the MCC would be willing to help map invasives on the property.
- Rachel, Bob, Allen, Taber, Anne all volunteered

Biomap: Tabled until next month due to erratic internet connection

Other Business: None

Announcements:

- Bridget Butler is involved in designating a wildlife corridor from NW VT to Canada (Cold Hollows to Canada). Steve suggested she may make a good speaker for the Naturalist Series.
- **Steve** will look into it.

Submitted by: _____

Bob Popp

Submitted on: 4 May 2017

Approved on: _____