

Marshfield Conservation Commission

88th Meeting

May 6th, 2015

Members Attending: Tony Mayhew, Anne Miller, Bob Popp, Sarah Norton, Allen Banbury, Steve Fiske, Taber Allison, and Ed Jalbert

Membership: Welcome to Taber Allison

- Members introduced themselves
- Taber provided information on his background
 - He is a plant ecologist by training;
 - Previously ran the conservation science division @ Mass Audubon
 - Works now for American Wind Wildlife Institute; runs science division

Minutes: April minutes approved unanimously as presented

Treasurers Report

- \$6,524 in Conservation Fund including proceeds from Tree Sale

Tree Sale

- Sale netted \$470.50 for Marshfield, but not final as yet
- 5 extra maples will be put at MCB
- Allen announced he will no longer oversee the plant sale
- Members extended a sincere THANK YOU to Allen for all years coordinating the sale.

Martin Covered Bridge:

- FoW will be putting out up to 1,00 stems of various trees and shrubs
- Need to set up work day to protect the trees
- **Allen** will call Rich Phillips to coordinate.

Update on Green Up:

- 150 bags of trash were collected
- 45 tires collected; down from 100 last year
- More participants this year than previous years
- Tony drafted a letter to SB summarizing results
- Tony announced this will be his last year;
- The members all THANKED Tony (and Pat) for their many years of coordinating local Green Up

Natural History Talk

- Talk for May is rescheduled for June 30th. 7Pm
- Nothing planned for May 19th

Stranahan Town Forest:

- Meeting on May 18th @ 6PM to review the proposed bike trail; meet at pull out off Jake Martin Rd.
- They plan to use part of an existing trail and part new route to make a loop by connecting to the Thompson Road
- Ed willing to recruise the whole property outside of wetlands so makes sense to map the wetland first.
- Members willing to be on a subcommittee to do this: Ed, Taber, Bob

The Bee Garden Project

- Offer from group assoc w/ UNH to establish bee garden on public land in town
- Will bring in tractor trailer load of soil to cover 30 x 60 ft area to 6 in deep
- Town would need to spread it out
- Only place on STF in field by kiosk which may be under lease for haying
- MCB won't work because would need to be on Rte 2 side to accommodate the truck. That side of property is floodplain so unable to spread fill
- OSHC has area near solar panels.
- Suggestion also of Twinfield School
- **Steve** will inquire of TUS and send out seed mix for members to review.

Update on subdivision regulation

- Bob & Annie attended PC meeting to discuss Subdivision Reg explanatory brochure; the PC had only minor changes or corrections.
- **Bob** will send out latest version

Water Quality Sampling

- Numerous sites up & down Winooski will be sampled for bacteria (E.coli) starting in June
- Paradise on Nasmith Brk will be sampled for bacteria because of swimming
- WQ monitoring will occur above & below treatment plants for Total Phosphorous (P) Total Nitrogen (N), and Chloride (CL).
- Five tributaries of Winooski will also be sampled for P, N, and CL
- Bacteria is sampled every other week and WQ sampling once per month

Announcements:

- FoW River Race and Ramble on June 7th Bolton Bridge to Richmond

Discussion of use of Conservation Fund To be Continued

- More plantings
- Exotics control

The foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the May 6, 2015 Conservation Commission Meeting.

Attest, _____, Town Clerk
