

Marshfield Conservation Commission

89th Meeting

June 3rd, 2015

Members Attending: Tony Mayhew, Anne Miller, Bob Popp, Sarah Norton, Steve Fiske, Annie Reed, and Allen Banbury.

Minutes: May Minutes approved unanimously with minor corrections

Treasurers Report: Tony

- Conservation Fund w/ \$6,732
- Net Income from Tree/Shrub Sale was \$ 577 which is below average. We need to subtract \$55 from this to cover the purchase 5 extra maples.

Martin Covered Bridge Workday:

- Four members attended: Sarah, Steve, Allen, and Bob
- Wrapped nearly all the trees in screening
- Exhausted our supply of ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth.

Bee Project Update: Steve

- Steve & Annie met w/ Resource Mgt Inc last week to review a site at OSC for a bee garden near the solar collectors.
- One load of soil would cover 20 x 50 ft to ca. 9inches. But we have room for 3 xs that amount.
- First load free, 2nd load \$300 with free seeding, 3rd load \$300 + \$100 for seed mix.
- The soil is apparently certified for agricultural use (Class A), but standards for dioxin are not very rigorous
- Soil is recycled short fiber paper, sand, biosolids (from treatment plants). Concern was expressed about the presence of dioxins and other trace contaminants.
- Agreed that we need to follow up with RMI. **Steve** will do that. **Steve** will also advise the SB on our concerns. **Anne** will provide assistance.
- Selectbd is on board and signed the sale agreement and agreed to cover half the cost. They did not address the contaminant issue.

Use of Conservation Funds:

Suggestion to develop a file of potential uses

- Roadside mowing
- Wetlands mapping
- Exotics control

- Tree plantings: possibly matching Friends of Winooski Funds
- Town natural areas inventory. **Bob** will check on timeline for Municipal Planning Grant and check w/ Plainfield Conservation Committee who was recently awarded a MPG
- Bat houses
- Beaver baffles (town issues?)
- Fruit tree planting
- Wildlife corridor map
- Speakers honorarium
- Tracking workshop
- **Bob** will bring a Natural Areas Inventory Report to next meeting
- **Sarah** will contact Plainfield to get a copy of their planning grant

Natural Marshfield Scheduling

- Microscopes on June 30th
- Mushroom workshop, possibly September
- Vernal pools
- Geology
- Rare plants, possibly next Spring

Stranahan Town Forest Meeting:

- 4 members of MCC participated in a meeting onsite with the Vt Mountain Bike Assoc along with Select Bd and Stranahan Stewardship Com
- VMBA showed us the approximate location of proposed mt bike trail
- Various committees thought the route was reasonable,
- Next step is for VMBA to flag out an actual route and then we should revisit.

Other Business:

- Bob discussed the Town organization questionnaire. Nobody on MCC is presently responsible for getting minutes on the town website. We need to figure this out since we're required to post minutes by (newly adopted) state statute
- Anne is potentially willing to take on the planning of the tree/shrub sale
- Water Quality Monitoring begins June 22nd; Steve has volunteers lined up

Announcement:

- Onion River Race and Ramble this Saturday Bolton to Richmond; fund raiser for FoW.

Submitted By:

Bob Popp

Submitted On: 23 June 2015

Approved On: _____

The foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the June 3, 2015 Conservation Commission Meeting.

Attest, _____, Town Clerk
