

## Marshfield Conservation Commission

### 114<sup>th</sup> Meeting

6 Sept. 2017

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

Minutes: July minutes approved unanimously with no changes

Treasurers Report: Allen has reconciled differences in our accounts with Bobbi.

Foliage Festival: Sunday **Oct 8<sup>th</sup>** from 11 to 3

- We will set up our display at Old Schoolhouse
- **Allen** will steward the display
- **Sarah** needs to either bring the display on the 8<sup>th</sup> or get it to Annie or Allen ahead of time

Naturalist Marshfield

- Uncertain whether the program will continue as Anne is running out of presenters
- If it continues, will likely move to the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of the month
- Considering Ben Kilham on bears for the “Celebrity Naturalist Series” depending if we have sufficient funds
- Will co-sponsor a presentation on “Beautiful Trees of the Stranahan” by Brett Engstrom on **Sunday, Oct 15<sup>th</sup>** from 1 to 4.

Water Quality

- Steve reported that water quality & bacteria sampling ended this week
- **Steve** will provide results on Front Porch Forum and will also provide a summary for our next meeting.

Permaculture Plantings:

- Steve conferred with Nicko Rubin re. edible plants for the Old Schoolhouse
- Niko suggested planting primarily along edges of fields rather than in the middle.
- He offered us 4 to 6 trees: pie cherry, apple, walnut, pear, chestnuts
- He also recommended Black currents, elderberry and Chokeberry
- **Annie** can donate elderberries
- Would require ongoing maintenance, such as mowing, fencing, mulching, pruning, watering for 1st year
- **Steve** will be responsible for overseeing the maintenance
- **Steve** will discuss with the Select Bd at their Sept 19<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Anne suggested viewing the site to select the best area to start planting. Will occur **on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30.**

Natural Community Inventory:

- Bob provided an overview of the municipal planning grant requirements & theme for this year.
- **Anne** will speak with Jens Hillke about other options

Announcements:

- Andy Perchlik has resigned from the Select Bd.
- Planning Commission is also still short a member
- **AVCC annual meeting is Sat. Sept 23** at Common Ground Center in Starksboro
- Members agreed to approve reimbursements of \$40 fee for any member who plans to attend.
- Regional Planning Commission received a grant from the High Meadows Fund for which we provided a letter of support. It entails evaluating & demonstrating the impact of upland forest management. Focuses mostly on outreach & GIS. The RPC partnered with 3 towns: Cabot, Marshfield, and Plainfield.
- Annie will be teaching Forest Ecology and using the Stranahan Town Forest. Her class will be doing a service project on Monday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon to eradicate invasives at the STF.

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 7 Sept 2017

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Accepted on: 4 Oct 2017