

# Wallingford Conservation Commission Minutes\*

**\*These are unofficial Minutes subject to the approval at the next regular meeting.**

**July 28, 2014**

**Present:** Carol Macleod (meeting chair), Marc Pramuk (meeting secretary), Dave Klock, Jill Burkett

1. Call to order @ 6:40.
2. June minutes approved.
3. Stone Meadow:
  - a. July work days were July 10, 13 & 20.
  - b. WCC acknowledged the assistance of Ron Roberts for mowing along the main Beach Trail in Stone Meadow.
  - c. Carol, Ralph & Marc pulled poison parsnip in Stone Meadow on several occasions. It appears under control at present but concern was raised over the widespread presence of the invasive skin irritant along Waldo Lane and Rte. 140. Carol and Marc are to follow up with the State and AVCC regarding options for addressing this.
  - d. There appears to be some damage to the birch stairs at the south end of the boardwalk, possibly due to mountain bike use on the trails. Jill to investigate and make any necessary repairs.
  - e. It was noted that there are trees down impacting Fishermans Elbow/Buzzards Roost. This will be addressed on the next work day.
  - f. Next work day: Sunday August 17 10 am - 12 noon either to conduct trail maintenance or begin work on the canoe/kayak launch.
4. Canoe/Kayak Launch:

- a. Marc had addressed the selectboard July 21 re: WCC's intention to proceed with a low impact approach for the launch area by digging a short dirt ramp into the west bank of Otter Creek near the parking area on Waldo Lane and installing logs for footing. The selectboard had approved this proposal subject to any permitting requirements.
- b. Marc had followed up with VT Watershed Management regarding any permitting. It likely is *de minimus* activity and so not subject to permitting but we are awaiting final approval.
- c. It was requested of the selectboard that the road crew assist with moving two boulders near the new gate into the Meadow along Waldo Lane. This request was approved.

5. Old Business:

- a. Signage: reviewed new kiosk map that had been created. It will be installed in Stone Meadow at the next work day.

6. New Business:

- a. It was discussed whether it was necessary to hire resources to assist with trail work and maintenance in Stone Meadow. This effort is proving difficult given the level of membership and availability during the summer months. After discussion, it was decided that we prioritize existing projects and needed work and that they be handled with current resources. Longer term, it likely will be necessary to hire resources to assist with maintenance (e.g. mowing). It was suggested that WCC look at fundraising as an alternative to seeking public funds.

7. Next Meeting August 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

8. Adjourned @ 7:40

Respectfully submitted, Marc Pramuk