

WALLINGFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2016

Present: Marc Pramuk, chair, Debbie Scranton, Dave Klock, Jill Burkett, Ralph Nimtz. Call to order at 6:49. Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Stone Meadow:

- **Parking Area:** Ralph to contact Don Glendenning about status of split rail fence. Also, Ralph to contact the Carving Studio about schedule and cost of sandblasting sign in stone. Recently planted trees are doing well or least stable.

-**Bee Project:** Ralph to check with Ed Safford about placing 2 to 4 (TBD) hives at the Meadow. Sandi Switzer's daughter is interested in assisting.

- **Invasive species:** Debbie suggested doing more work on eradicating invasives. We will work to schedule a speaker and hold a field day to identify invasives and enlist volunteers.

- **Bat houses:** Debbie suggested installing bat houses to increase population and reduce insect population. Marc will investigate availability/cost to purchase bats to release in the Meadow.

- **Trails:** Two trees down on Buzzard's Roost Trail. Marc will dispatch. Discussed markers to distinguish trails for skiing, snowshoeing, biking, etc. More benches are needed, perhaps with numbers on them. Ralph has materials. Perhaps we can get HS students to help with Trail work during school vacations.

-**Winter Fun Day:** Plan for March 6th with 13th as an alternate. Debbie will make a list of needed supplies and equipment and allocate responsibilities to each member. If we hold it at the sliding hill, we will need to rope off the newly planted trees.

Other projects:

-**Recycling/Composting:** Act 148 requires town transfer stations to recycle yard waste now and will require recycling of food waste one year from this July. We are exploring composting as opposed to exporting waste as an option to comply with the Act. On March 7th there will be a Web Seminar for Master Composters. We are taking steps to have WCC members sign up for this to assist and support the needs of the Town and residents interested in composting.

Grants: The Recreational Trails Program Grant can potentially fund the modifications to the exposed water pipe across Otter Creek. Marc will check with Fire District for their input. Grant application is due Feb 1st.

Budget: This year we have spent \$302.54 and have \$697.46 left. Fun Day will cost \$100-\$125. We received a donation from Michael and Gail Macleod of \$50. Thank you. The Town will now increase our budget to \$1,500 starting in July.

Railroad slashings: After WCC complaint, the Rutland Railroad has hauled away at least 2 car loads of brush lying along the tracks through the village. Thank you RR.

Elections: Marc was retained as Chair, Debbie and Ralph will share the Clerk's duties and Carol is retained as Treasurer with a quorum vote of 5 to 0.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55

Respectfully submitted by Ralph Nimtz, Clerk Approved:02/29/16