

WALLINGFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of **June 22, 2015**, called to order at 6:43 pm on the front steps.

Attending: Marc Pramuk, chair, Debbie Scranton, Joyce & Michael McMahon, Dave Klock, Ralph Nimitz.

Previous meeting minutes approved except the date should have been May 25th.

Agenda:

Green up Day: The sign and table at the Transfer Station seemed to make people more aware and should be continued. Have bags available at the Town Hall a week before.

Stone Meadow Work Day: 6/7/15 work day was mostly planning future work and walking trails. Marc has raked about 80% of the trails on his own time. **Next work day will be Sat., July 4th from 9 to 11.** Four new chain saw projects for down trees over trails will be done by the WCC. Buzzard's Roost Trail needs work and tree identification signs need to be refurbished. Bring post-hole diggers. Poison parsnip plants are coming up, but not yet in bloom. They should be ready to pull in a week or two. Long sleeves, heavy duty rubber gloves and eye protection are a must.

Other Stone Meadow:

- We will get only one load of topsoil toward the Bee Project. Our Grant application was not approved.
- Dead and dangerous trees have been removed at the Beach. There has been no progress on the pavilion project. A grand opening for the Canoe Trail and perhaps the new Beach Pavilion will be postponed until further notice.
- The parking area was discussed. Most members favored a timber fence, perhaps a non-removable split rail. One suggestion for a sign was to pile the big boulders up vertically with one flat-sided stone, centered, with "Stone Meadow" carved into it. Perhaps the parking area is of adequate size, but maybe lowered and leveled. Discussion of trash barrel and dog waste continued. If we have a trash barrel we will be required to have a recyclable barrel. Dog bags and waste could be a maintenance problem. Perhaps a "Take Nothing/Leave Nothing" policy is best. It was noted that dogs are especially grateful for the canoe launch to the Creek after a little exercise on the trails.

Other:

- It was noted that smoking is banned on Town property and all visitors and employees should be reminded. Debbie will post warning at the Beach.

- We have \$98 left in our budget to spend by July 1. We decided to buy materials for additional benches and pay John McClallen for gas and tractor maintenance.
- It was discovered that the water pipe across Otter Creek and the land on either side is privately owned. A member of WCC will approach the owners about creating a canoe portage.
- As a result of the deal with the Phillips property, we might be able to move the Beach Road gate out to near Route 140. This would eliminate the hidden parking area and reduce litter. Marc will submit the idea to the Selectboard.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40

Respectfully submitted, Ralph Nimtz, Secretary.