

## WALLINGFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting minutes – August 28, 2017

Present: Marc Pramuk (Chair), Debbie Scranton, Carol Macleod, Ralph Nimitz

Called to order @ 6:35. Approval of July 24, 2017 minutes, no public comments

### **Bee project:**

- Both hives are somewhat dysfunctional. The original hive appears to have had the queen swarm, with a new queen building in an inaccessible (to humans) place under the lower screen. Second hive has not been using the real frames and have started a free-form upper hive on no frame so that we can't open the hive.
- We need a small shed or secure box for beekeeping equipment. Hive site is enclosed with an electric fence and warning sign to discourage curious visitors. Electric fence is only pulsing weakly and we will check, and solar panel should be facing directly south.
- Marc and Kevin Mullin will pull some honey out this weekend.

### **Stone Meadow Trails:**

- Trees have fallen on the trail access to the boy's camp Lodge Road which is beneficial.
- Meadows are doing well with wildflowers, and we discussed whether or not we should mow a third of the meadows this year, or not, and simply cut down young tree growth.
- Rob Ketcham will do the bench signage for us, and we'll post Mark Skakel's tree.
- At next work day, will put down fabric and surpak on trails by bench by well-head.
- Will schedule a Fall work day to move birdhouses, duck boxes, perhaps building a shed

### **Budget:**

- Balance in Town account is \$1002.35, and expenses thus far are \$767.65 since beginning of this fiscal year.
- Marc's volunteer hours will cover the cost of his game camera that was stolen from Stone Meadow.

### **Future Activities:**

- Informal mushroom walk in Stone Meadow by Janet Kennedy Farmer from Wallingford to be scheduled for September

### **New Business:**

- Marc will be attending Covert's "Woodlot and Wildlife Management" workshop at Kehoe Conservation Camp in Castleton on September 8-10.

### **Work Day:**

- Work day set for Sunday, September 3, from 9-11, on Waldo Lane, to  
work on trail  
by wellhead bench. Bring shovels, weed-whackers, rakes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42

Next meeting is Monday, September 25 at 6:30

Submitted by Debbie Scranton