

WALLINGFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2019

Present: Marc Pramuk (Chair), Carol Macleod (Treasurer), Debbie Scranton, Ralph Nimtze (Vice Chair)

Guests: None

1. Called to order at 7:15 pm.
2. Approval of July minutes.
3. Additions/deletions to Agenda: none
4. Public Comments: none
5. Update/Next Steps on Stone Meadow Trails:
 - a. Resurfacing Main trail and ADA trail. Sure-Pack sufficient for 3" cover of both trails will be ordered and WCC will request that Town Road Crew deliver the Sure-Pack to several spots (Beach parking area, area near junction of ADA and Main trail, area inside metal gate on Waldo Lane). Estimated Sure-Pack needed is 54-88 cubic yards and may be ordered for several different workdays. Work days will be scheduled for October, 2019. WCC will hire someone with tractor bucket to move and spread Sure-Pack from piles to trails. WCC will rent a tool to compact Sure-Pack once it is on trails. Carol will call GE and Rotary to see if they might want to join us for these work days. Re-Sure-Packing to be done in October.
 - b. Removal of large trees and invasive plants in forested area to the north of the main trail behind the Stone Meadow map sign as suggested by Vermont Audubon to create an area of young forest habitat structure and to control non-native invasive plants. WCC may either do the work itself or will hire tree surgeons/foresters to remove invasive plants and cut down large trees. Tree cutting and invasive removal to occur sometime in October.

- c. Marc will check out the bee/honey situation 8/31 and will research any problems/questions that arise.
 - d. WORK DAY: Saturday 9/22, 9am-11 am or as required to complete work. Tasks: Spin and bottle honey. Determine and mark trees that should be cut down. Mark invasives that need to be removed. Walk Western portion of meadow to see if it is dry enough to be mowed.
 - e. Hire someone to mow ½ of meadow area – either the eastern half or western half depending on dryness of areas. Mowing to be done in October.
6. Budget. Our 2020 budget amount is \$2500. We spent \$6.74 in July. Current budget amount available is \$2,493.26. A new bank account was set up for WCC Donations. Its current balance is \$2765. It is planned to use the donations account to pay for the tree/invasive removal and the mowing and possibly the Sure-Pack.
7. New Business. Fernfield Farm. Kate Wanner, The Trust for Public Land, potential acquisition of 481 acres on Hartsboro Rd/Icebed Rd to become part of the Green Mountain National Forest. Land abuts White Rocks. She is requesting our support of this acquisition. After a lengthy discussion, WCC determined that they did not have enough information to approve or disapprove. Commission members are to come up with questions to be forwarded to Kate Wanner. She will be invited to the September meeting of the WCC. It is suggested that Commission members view the acreage and also investigate the affect of removing this property from the tax roll. Marc will send an email to Kate inviting her to September meeting.
8. Adjourn: 7:50 pm

Approved: 09/23/19