

WALLINGFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2020

Present: Marc Pramuk (chair), Ralph Nimitz (vice-chair), Carol Macleod (Treasurer), Pat Stone (Secretary), Debbie Scranton, Jane Quigley

Guests:

1. Called to order @6:37 PM.
2. Approval of Oct. minutes
3. Additions/ Deletions to the Agenda: none
4. Public Comments: None
5. Sue Morse Presentation:
 - Thursday January 30, 6:30 PM Shrewsbury Mountain School
 - Marc has already posted on our Facebook page, will post on FPF
 - Wallingford events group has re-posted on their page.
6. Winter Fun Day:
 - Sunday February 16 (weather date 2/23) 12-2 PM, Stone Meadows Conservation area, WCC to arrive around 11:00 for set up
 - Marc has made a flyer, will post on Facebook, and send out the PDF for us to post
 - The WCC will offer a free BBQ with hot dogs, Hot chocolate, a fire pit for warmth and roasting marshmallows.
 - Carol will print flyer and post around town, an on FPF, Debbie will post signs by library and Waldo lane.
 - Mark will post about using snowshoes from the library
 - We already have enough: (Carol) hot dogs, relish, ketchup, mustard, cookies, potato chips, (Deb) dry goods, cooking forks, table, grill, chairs
 - Carol will get Hot cups, Hot cocoa, marshmallow, rolls, (Ralph) chopped onions
 - Pat will supply a propane stove and tank for the hot chocolate
 - Marc will supply footprint Identifier pamphlets and wood for the fire, Ralph will provide wood and pallets for the same.
7. Update Stone Meadows/ Next steps:
 - Due to the windy winter weather so far, some trees have come down, one is right on the Upper Rim walk, but it is possible to step over it.
 - Rob Barker has taken down one tree as planned so far, more to be removed as the weather allows. This will be an ongoing project according to our forest plan.
 - There is still a small area that needs Shur Pack, will address in May.

8. Budget:

- Current Budget: \$'s in Town Budget Account - \$1778.79. Julie has put all the WCC expenses thru the Budget Acct rather than taking out the designated expenses from the Donation Account.
- As of today, WCC has spent \$714.47 which was taken out of the budget, but will be taken out of the Donation acct at the end of the fiscal year along with any other future expenses incurred and designated for the donation acct.
- As of today, and if all expenses were properly assigned to the correct accounts, WCC accounts would be:
 - Town Budget - \$2493.26
 - Donation Account - \$2050.85 plus \$50 donation from Wes McLeod
 - Marc will be getting an additional ~\$900 from the Vermont Country Store.

9. Other Old Business:

- Bees/ Honey
 - It has been another bad winter for bees. Temperature fluctuations have made it difficult to keep bees alive.
 - Last year we decided to not do bees, but to clean up the hives in anticipation of trying again this year. Marc is thinking of trying to use local bees, perhaps trying to find bees that need to be removed by local contractors. He will try advertising on FPF.
 - If we are going to order, we will need to do so by February. We will order from "Better Bee" in Greenwich NY, but he has some concerns over the aggressive behavior of the previous batch from them.

10. New Business:

- Wallingford Day, July 18th. We will need better visibility this year.
- VYCC – Keith Warner is looking for projects for his youth members. We could apply for a grant (~\$1000 for the day)
 - We had a discussion around having them pull invasive plants. Carol will check that they have their own tools
 - Pat and Carol will check if they have any appropriate posters with examples of invasive species.
- Bike Trail:
 - Marc noticed that the trail already damage by bikers has expanded. They have dug a huge hole and used the dirt to fill in the space between two jumps. They also cut down a tree by the Klock bench and left their tools in the woods.
 - It was discussed that we would put their tools in our shed for safe keeping, and Carol will contact Sandy about this situation.
 - A group from WCC will visit the site this Saturday, Feb 1, at 10 AM and others will try to go on their own time.

11. Adjourn: 7:25

Next Meeting is Monday February 24, 2020