

WALLINGFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

APPROVED MINUTES FROM MEETING

Monday, April 26, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:48pm. Present at the meeting were Carol Macleod, Debbie Scranton, Ralph Nimtz, Rodney Ward, Nick Bresinsky and guest Thomas Fort and Shannon Pytlik.

Guest: Thomas Forte of East Wallingford is retired from his former position in climate and water issues. He is currently farming and has a great passion for conservation. The Conservation Commission will request the Selectboard to approve his inclusion as a member of the Wallingford Conservation Commission.

Minutes: Minutes from the WCC from March 23,2021 were unanimously approved.

Arbor Day Tree Grant: Shannon Pytlik was congratulated on the approval of this grant. Two trees will be planted in May – one at Elfin Lake Beach and one on Main Street. Nick Bresinsky has gotten price information on metal tree identification signs which are also part of the grant. The cost is \$22.00 each and there are 10 signs. The tree signs have been allocated \$200 out of this grant. WCC will make up the difference between the grant allotment and the actual cost of approximately \$220. Nick will send Debbie and Ralph the contact information for the sign company producing the signs.

Bees. Thanks to help from Kevin Mullin and Conservation members Jane Quigley and Carol Macleod, we were able to extract enough honey to sell 32 jars of honey ranging in size from 4 oz, 8oz and 16oz. The WCC raised \$340 from the sale of the honey. Honey was sold out within one week. We have ordered 2 new bee colonies which should arrive late May. We are also looking at getting a new, larger extractor and replacing other worn equipment.

Stone Meadow Fact-Finding held April 18, 2021 at Stone Meadow: We walked most but not all trails in Stone Meadow. Rodney Ward showed us his proposed new multi-use trail in the Southeast corner of Stone Meadow. The WCC agreed that the terrain of this section of Stone Meadow lends itself to the construction of this new multi-use trail. The WCC voted to prepare a detailed plan requesting Selectboard approval to construct this new trail for multi-use i.e. Bikes and Pedestrians. Rodney Ward requested that we also look at the Buzzards Roost trail for future multi-purpose use. Rim Trail alterations will also be considered in the future.

Stone Meadow – Trees: We planted 4 Sycamore trees on April 11th. Two were placed on either side of the carving near the parking area and two were planted on either side of the

entry way to the ADA Trail. Saturday, May 8th, is another work day for planting 10 small tree seedlings most, if not all, are geared toward providing a food source for birds and bees.

Stone Meadow – other planned workdays: Work will include raking the trails as needed, removing grass clumps from ShurPacked areas, weeding the Rain Garden, adding ShurPack to the western portion of the ADA Trail, weed whacking where required, continued cleaning of the copse, correcting slippery areas on long bridge on Bog Trail, sign replacement where needed. WORK DAY IS PLANNED FOR MAY 16TH, 10 AM – NOON FOR RAKING AND FURTHER CLEAN-UP OF COPSE. BRING YOUR OWN TOOLS.

Green Up Day. May 1st from 8:00 am – noon at the lawn in front of the Gilbert Hart Library.

Budget: \$1857 remaining in budget with \$3680 in Community Bank plus \$340 from honey sales. We will be buying 2 bee colonies and bee equipment estimated at about \$500-600 out of this year's budget. 2021-22 budget year starts July 1, 2021 for which we requested and will receive \$1830.

Other business: Potential use of \$3680 VCS donations. Construction of pavilion? No decisions made.

Adjourned at 7:37 pm