

DRAFT  
Thetford Conservation Commission Minutes

June 27, 2018

Present: Ann Lavanway, Jim McCracken, Libby Chapin, Sue Tallman, Steve Lehman, Jeff Smith, and Bob Pulaski

Guests: Jesse Mohr, Sue Fritz, and Connie Snyder

Jesse Mohr presented his Phase I proposal of a natural resources inventory for the Town of Thetford based on priorities outlined by the Conservation Commission. He reviewed several inventories from other towns in the Upper Valley. Two publications that can be used as references are "Conserving Thetford's Natural Heritage" and "Mapping Vermont's Natural Heritage". Jesse suggested the TCC contact the Bradford Conservation Commission for a copy of their 2015 NRI along with any advice they could offer about the process. Maps and the narrative for Phase I could be used by the Town Planning Committee and school educators. It could also be available online. Phase II could include citizen scientists for locating animal crossings and vernal pools.

A motion was made to accept Phase I priorities as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Connie Snyder reported that she spoke with Sarah Martel of Mascoma Bank. The bank has two grant funding programs. The Commission discussed the two plans and the possibility of requesting funds for the natural resources inventory from one or both of these programs.

Sue Fritz presented details of the Enhanced Energy Planning Committee's discussion about setting criteria for solar array sites in Thetford. The Commission discussed recommendations for preferred sites and constrained sites. Sue, Jim and Ann will write a response to the Committee regarding site recommendations.

Jim and Libby announced a Reptile walk organized by the West Fairlee CC will happen July 15, 2018 starting at 9AM. It will be led by Kiley Briggs and participants will be asked to RSVP. The TCC will plan a Wood Turtle talk in the fall by Mr. Briggs. The date and location to be determined.

The minutes from the June 13, 2018 meeting were approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Tallman  
Secretary