

APPROVED

Thetford Conservation Commission Minutes

February 20, 2019

7:00 PM

Present: Steve Lehman, Sue Fritz, Connie Snyder, Judy Harvey, Bob Pulaski, Sara Cavin, Sue Tallman

Absent: Jeff Smith and Jim McCracken

The Minutes of January 16, 2019 were amended and approved.

Judy reported on the Tracking Walk scheduled for Sunday, February 24, 2019, at the Thetford Elementary School from 12 PM to 2 PM. Set up time is 11:30 a.m. Ali Thomas, Education Manager for the VT Fish and Wildlife Department, is the presenter and has promoted the event on her website. Sara designed a poster and posted it on the Thetford list serve. Posters will also be put on bulletin boards around Thetford.

Sue Fritz displayed the poster board for the March Town Meeting that she and Libby Chapin completed. Sara and Connie will provide a map of Thetford showing conserved properties. Descriptions of the land tracks will be included. Posters of upcoming Conservation Commission events will be added to the table display along with garlic mustard handouts to encourage removal of this invasive plant.

Judy and Sara enthusiastically reported on the Film Festival scheduled for Sunday, March 10, 2019, at Thetford Academy from 3 PM to 5:15 PM. The West Fairlee CC is partnering with the TCC with this event. Sara has set up a Facebook page for the TCC promoting the film festival and other TCC news. A quote from poet Mary Oliver will set the theme for the evening.

Connie reported on the Bird Walk with Dr. George Clark. The date is Saturday, May 11, 2019 at the Taylor Floodplain Preserve in Post Mills. May 12 is the rain date. The starting time is 7:30 AM. Connie will have more information of a Butterfly Walk when available.

Scheduling the spring burn at Post Mills Nature Area is postponed to the March, 2019 TCC Meeting.

Steve reported that the UVLT 21st Annual Conservation Commission gathering is March 19, 2019, at 6 PM at Hypertherm in Lebanon. All members of the TCC are invited to attend.

Sue Fritz was approached by Ron Rhodes, River Steward for the Connecticut River Conservancy, for help with the removal of the Malmquist dam in Post Mills. Funding is available for this project to improve the river ecology at this site. The dam is privately owned by Walter

Malmquist. Sue Fritz will explore avenues for the TCC to help find an agreeable solution for removing the dam.

Lisa Niccolai, Conservation Specialist with the White River Natural Resources Conservation District, contacted Steve and would like to attend a TCC meeting to talk about a possible future collaboration with Thetford. She is on the agenda for March 13, 2019.

Agenda items for the March 13,2019 meeting were suggested:

Scheduling the burn at the Post Mills Nature Area
Plans for the live animal owl event
Report on the Film Festival
Report on the Town Meeting participation
Plans for Green Up Day
Town inventory update from Jesse Mohr
Presentation by Lisa Nicoolai

The Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

The next meeting is March 13, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Tallman