

Thetford Conservation Commission Minutes

June 12, 2019

7:00PM

Present: Sue Fritz, Connie Snyder, Bob Pulaski, Sue Tallman and Jim McCracken

Absent: Sara Cavin, Steve Lehman, Jeff Smith and Judy Harvey

Guests: Kiley Briggs, Melany Lohrer and Li Shen

The Minutes of May 8, 2019 were approved as amended.

Kiley Briggs gave a detailed report on the status of wood turtles in Thetford. He and Melany have conducted a recent survey to verify turtle populations and habitat locations. By using radio telemetry, they were able to track turtle movements. The estimated number of turtles verified is 6-7 juveniles and 8-10 adults. Learning how to provide adequate nesting areas is a major concern. Eggs will start hatching by mid-August through September. Restoration funding for riparian maintenance is available. The deadline to apply is February 1, 2020.

Jim reported on the Select Board's road mowing schedule regarding garlic mustard and other invasive plants. Not all Thetford roads are mowed every year. The SB would welcome a road map from the TCC identifying those areas that need yearly mowing. Jim suggested inviting Chad Martin (DPW Foreman) to a TCC meeting to discuss this topic.

The planned Executive Session did not occur as it was not necessary for the meeting.

Connie reported that the May 11, 2019 bird walk was well attended in spite of the chilly wet weather. West Fairlee TCC is planning a walk at Brushwood Forest on June 30, 2019. Jim and Sue Fritz are organizing a fern and geology walk with Peter and Thelma Thompson in July. Details TBA. The suggestion was made to advertise both events on the same poster.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.

The next meeting is July 10, 2019 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Tallman