

West Fairlee Conservation Commission

Approved Minutes – Meeting April 28, 2015

Attending: John Boutin, Fred Cook, Geoffrey Gardner, Ann Stephens, Peggy Willey, Rebecca Wurdak and guest Jen Shatney.

The meeting began at 7:05 PM.

1. Town-wide Composting: Jen Shatney reported on composting at the Westshire School and the informal survey of townspeople she's done at the Town's recycling. She's found that most people she talked with are willing to compost or already do. A smaller number said they would need help composting or information about how it's done. A small number of people said they would not compost under any circumstances. Jen also told us about the compost education she's done with children at the school. She made suggestions about how we could begin gearing up for town-wide composting. A discussion followed about how education on composting could be done as well as about possible arrangements for pick-up of compost, equipment needed by households and cost. Geoff offered to inquire of the regional planning commission about whether any funding was available to help cover costs of starting up.

2. Minutes: It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting of March 24, 2015.

3. Treasurer's Report: No Treasurer's report was available.

4. Junk Removal From the Ompompanoosuc in the Vicinity of the School: John reported on his meeting at the clean-up site with James "Buzz" Surwillo of the Solid Waste Management District and Jonathan Blake. Buzz Surwillo thought it was unlikely a permit would be required for the clean-up. Jonathan will do the work after school is out. It is likely a large roll-off will be needed to cart the junk away. John will look into prices for this.

5. Green-Up Day: Final arrangements for the Green-Up Day were discussed. The remaining uncertainty had to do with how exactly tires and scrap metal would be handled. Geoff will call Julie and whomever else to get these details squared away.

6. River Monitoring: If the grant for monitoring the Ompompanoosuc is awarded, then monitoring is likely to begin the end of May or the beginning of June. Four pairs of volunteers probably will be needed to do the work. Once the grant is in place there will be a meeting to set a schedule, pick locations for monitoring and to work out other necessary details.

7. Lake Fairlee Dam Bond and Vote: Fred gave the group a full report on the vote coming up on the bond to allow for repair of the dam, the cost to be shared by the three towns. He urged members of the group to contact as many people as possible to get out the vote on May 19. A pamphlet written by members of the Tri-Town Committee, describing the project, its cost and the consequences of voting to approve or reject the bond will be mailed to all voters in all three towns.

8. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 9:20.