

Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes –Meeting of September 22nd, 2015

Attending: John Boutin, Fred Cook, Ann Stephens, Jim Totin, Peggy Willey, Rebecca Wurdak, Visitors: Dave Paganelli (Orange Cty forester), Kate Willard (Forest, Parks & Rec), Kate Sudhoff (Forest Legacy Program), Ginger Anderson (Forestry District manage, Delsie Eaton, Bruce Durkee, Steve Malinoski *{anyone else?}*)

Meeting began: 7:05 pm

Visitors from the State attended the CC meeting with stakeholders in Brushwood North's VASA trails because of concerns regarding conditions of the trails and difficulty of upkeep. Organizations responsible for trail maintenance had changed several times in the past 2 years, and communication on trail conditions had broken down over this period.

It was proposed that VASA hire a professional forester to assess what is needed, report and monitor annually in early May. Costs and time were estimated. It was estimated that 2-3 years of this monitoring and repair would be sufficient to bring the trails back into compliance with State mandates for our easements.

Our visitors expressed their appreciation for the good working relationship they perceive in working with West Fairlee groups involved with the Brushwood Community Forest.

Secretary's report: It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve as slightly amended the minutes of the CC meeting of August 25th, 2015.

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

It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to spend total \$429.55 (divided equally between Thetford and West Fairlee CC's) for the Bridget Butler public presentation on Bird Migration in October. Arrangement were made for CC participation in this program.

The CC moved, seconded and unanimously approved an amount up to \$300 for an education program on Native Bees in conjunction with the Thetford CC in November.

The CC discussed and established a budget for education programs. **A cap of \$800 per year was moved, seconded and passed unanimously .**

4. Brushwood Community Forest-

Keys-Ann will bring French Parcel gate keys and signature forms to next meeting for distribution.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM