

Tunbridge Conservation Commission - January 20, 2020 - Tunbridge Library
Draft Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Ellen Hosford, Betsy Gaiser, Eliza Minnucci, Aaron Weed, Michael Sacca.

Called to order at 6:40pm.

Minutes from the 12.16.2019 Approved

Big Tree Contest Update

30+ entries, 18 Species. Judging to begin in February.

We'd like to have a photo display at our town meeting table.

Action to be taken: Eliza will send out a press release to: Valley News, The Herald, Geoff Hansen, VPR, Todd Tyson (WFVR).

Christmas Bird Count

Report from Betsy. A Spring Bird Count may happen.

Rare Species

Discussion about designing events to identify rare species, perhaps in the spring.

BirderBroker opportunity for landowners to partner up with a birder.

Liza Morse - VCE - Grassland Bird Outreach evening is a possible event for early April.

White River Partnership - First Branch Clean Up

Rudi Ruddell spoke about connecting with the Connecticut River Conservancy "Source to Sea Cleanup" September 25th and 26th. Clean up could be a one day, three hour effort. There is a specific effort to document tires found in waterways. TCC can partner with the White River Partnership to organize an efficient clean-up and disposal of cleared items. TCC can plan by noting access points. Tentatively September 26th or 27th. TCC can work to include Tunbridge students, reach out to area high schools and all public to join the effort. We might reach out to surrounding town conservation commissions to host river clean-ups on the same day, might connect with the Four Town Natural Resources Working Group.

Action to be taken: Rudi will follow-up with White River Partnership and connect with Connecticut River Conservancy.

Other Business

Action to be taken: Betsy will check if we are on town meeting agenda.

Discussion about gathering Four Town meeting of conservation commissions. Possible agenda items might Fall River Clean-up, sharing commission priorities - finding commonalities, sharing future land-use visions, speaker series...

Betsy will follow up with connecting

Steve Faccio of Vermont Center for Ecostudies giving a talk on vernal pools on January 10th.
Nature Conservancy giving a talk at VLS on January 30th.

Next Meeting: February 17, 6:30pm, Tunbridge Library.
Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.