

Tunbridge Conservation Commission
Minutes from 2/17/2020 meeting

In attendance: Aaron Weed, Betsy Gaiser, Ellen Hosford, Maureen McCullough, Brenda Field

- Secretary Eliza Minnucci was unable to attend. Betsy noted the minutes.
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- Big Tree contest report from Brenda. 72 entries, 24-26 different species. Verification began on Sat. Several entries have been deemed ineligible due to the determination that they consisted of multiple trunks. A second forester is being sought to help verify the remaining entries.
- Grassland Bird talk update. The VCE contact has been unresponsive after numerous attempts by e-mail and phone. Aaron will try to follow up with them or look into arranging a different speaker on the subject through his Park Service contacts. He will also check into the status of the whip-poor-will survey through the Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE).
- Walking Guide update. Ellen is still trying to track down the 50 copies of the guide given to the recreation Committee. Betsy will be in communication with the library about going in on a second printing. Ellen estimated that the future printing by Spalding Press would allow for the \$5.00 price to remain in place.
- Town Meeting warning. The TCC is requesting that a fund be established, but noted that we are not asking for money from the town at this time. The TCC needs an account so that there is a place to put money from sale of the Walking Guide and future grant opportunities.
- Other business. Aaron noted recent bobcat sightings on the Foundry road. Ellen shared a bobcat track photo she had taken. Aaron confirmed the track ID and noted the distinct characteristics of a bobcat print.
- Aaron reviewed the vernal pool google doc that he had compiled for data in 2018. Additional data will be entered for vernal pool verification in 2019. There are 3 or 4 more pools to ID in 2020.
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 16th.