

Tunbridge Conservation Commission - May 17, 2021 - outside at the library

In attendance: Betsy Gaiser, Eliza Minnucci, Ellen Hosford, Maureen McCullough, Neil Fitzgerald, Michael Sacca

Called to order at 5:05pm.

4.19.2020 Meeting Minutes

- Votes revised. (Both to read 4-2)
- Approved.

Wildlife Update

- Flowers, Birds and Bears, oh my!

Action: Betsy to contact Jeff Whipple

- to learn about local mammal hunting activity, status of animals

Tunbridge Blooms Update

- 25+ flower species identified to date
- Discussion of best way to share photos/identifications

Town Forest Bird Walk

- Report of First Event on the Garage Lot: 12 Confirmed Species, attended around 10
- Question about parking
- Discussion about trails on the lot
- Discussion about idea to connect both town forests with a public/private partnership trail
- Encouragement to Michael and Neil to host further Bird Walk offerings
- Consider an Evening Bird Walk to hear the Whippoorwills (consider moon cycles)
- Consider coordinating with Vermont Center for Ecostudies

Reading of the Mission Statement.

- Act 171 study and work
- Focus on Western Ridge anti-fragmentation
- Database of baseline information concerning natural resources and usage of land

White River Clean-Up

- Link to Water Quality data from White River Partnership on Town Website

Action - Betsy to explore collaboration with White River Partnership

Action - Neil Fitzgerald to explore river in North Tunbridge to assess debris to be cleared

Trails Committee Update

Membership is a bit in flux, new members may be appointed

Committee has subcommittees and is identifying scope of work and assignments
Committee will have a July 15th interim report

Other Business

Cellar Holes (and other architectural, historical and cultural features)

- Consider documenting cellar holes / architectural and cultural resources in town - perhaps a school -project

Ash Borer

- Disseminate information to community (discourage clear cutting of Ash)
- Consider event to inform landowners - perhaps consultant from Redstart Forestry, perhaps as a Winter Evening

Bluebird House Building Project

- Neil has started gathering materials for kits, to be built at a community event, perhaps January/February 2022

Wildflower Walk

Action - Eliza to reach out to possible hosts for a Wildflower walk.

Next Meeting: June 21, 5pm, Outdoors at the Tunbridge Library

Meeting adjourned at 7pm.