**WINDHAM, VERMONT CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, 10 July, 2018**

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Present: Alison Trowbridge, Hal Wilkins, Ginny Crittenden, Dawn Bower, Barbara Davis.

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The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Alison, Chair

1. The Minutes of the 12 June meeting were approved without comments or corrections.

2. Review and approval of the *Conflict of Interest Policy* and the *Rules of Procedure* has been rescheduled to the August meeting.

3. Items for Discussion:

Vermont Association of Conservation Commissions

Still no response to letters and e-mails re the 2018 conference; Hal will continue to track down the organization

Town Trails

General discussion of possible town trail routes…..Airline Road, Switch Road, Camp Buck, Cobb Rock Trail. etc. It was suggested that resource maps be available at the town office, at the 2019 Town Meeting, etc. for residents to identify areas of interest (bogs, caves, old foundations, nests, mines, crash sites, excellent fishing holes, etc.) that could be placed on a comprehensive Windham natural and social resources map.

The possibility of developing (expanding?) a trail at the Windham School was also discussed…as was the possibility of a trail on the Meadiowshed property.

Hal will pester Rick Cowan (Windmill Hill / Pinnacle Association) about speaking to the WCC regarding the success of the WHPA in securing donations of land and $, the development of a trail system, etc.

Pete \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Harrington Road) will be contacted re information that he could provide concerning local trails and any trail maps that he and his bike group have created

Town Forest

Local researcher Jon Stevens will be contacted regarding any suitable town-owned or land-locked parcels that might be appropriate for a town forest.

Burpee Pond

The water level, absence of beaver (and other wildlife), adjustment to the beaver deceiver, the proliferation of invasive / aquatic plants, etc. were discussed. It was suggested that Skip Lisle (the beaver deceiver installer) be invited to meet with the WCC (at the site) to discuss the effectiveness of the unit in its present configuration, recommendations regarding changes to positioning, etc. Dawn will follow-up with Skip; possibly to be at the August meeting.

Mechanical removal of invasive aquatic plants is an expensive endeavor…….but there are firms that travel throughout the state with appropriate equipment. The state may have grants available for such activity and, in addition, state personnel who specialize in lake / pond management will be contacted and invited to speak about this at a subsequent WCC monthly (or special) meeting.

<http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/lakes/ans/docs/Managing%20Aquatic%20Invasive%20Species%202018.pdf>

*Wenham News and Notes*

Placing an article about invasives – both aquatic and land-based – in the newsletter was discussed. The next deadline for submittal of articles is 18 August……the Saturday following the next meeting of the WCC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

The next meeting of the WCC will be Tuesday, 14 August 2018; 7 PM, at the Town Office.