

Plainfield Conservation Commission Minutes September 16, 2020

Present: Sarah Albert, Becky Atchinson, Julie Hackbarth, Serena Matt, Rose Paul, Mary Trerice

Again we met outside at Rose's due to Covid restrictions.

Minutes: July and August minutes were approved.

Water Quality Training Update: We hope to have a training at our November meeting, probably over Zoom, with NRCD.

Village Composting: We've not heard back from Alice. Sarah sent her an email wondering if the selectboard will be the umbrella organization since they would need to sign the grant. Also, a reminder that the composter must be bear proof.

EAB trap update: September 6 was the removal date and no EAB were found in the trap. Rose would volunteer to place traps again.

Data Collection in the Town Forest: JoAnn Garten has provided a mobile app to upload EAB information. Serena, Sarah, and Rose proposed checking the trails in the TF to inventory ash trees since infected trees would be a safety hazard. They could then be removed at the earliest sign of infestation. Rose will organize this work and let us all know when she can start doing the inventory.

Town Forest Wetland Trail: It appears that Maple Hill School is still interested in making the low boardwalk. They would be aided by Greg Western and we will pay for any materials from the Woodlands Fund. This would then allow access to the TF from the parking lot on Maxfield Rd.

Access to the Town Forest: We discussed that this should be brought to the Selectboard again. It is not possible to drive a regular car to the parking lot. We are getting reports of residents who are concerned that they can't drive in and it's not obvious where it is ok for them to park.

Cross VT Trail: Rose reported that the bridge over the Winooski will be completed this fall!

Other: Sarah suggested we check the Calais website for their trails information. We wondered about technology that could be used to map our trails.

How will we keep meeting? Now that evenings are darker earlier and colder we aren't comfortable meeting outside. Is there a Town Zoom account? Sarah will investigate.

Adjourn: 8 pm. Respectfully submitted, Mary Trerice

