

Plainfield Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2018

Present: Sarah Albert, Becky Atchinson, Charlie Cogbill, Julie Hackbarth, Kim Sudol, Jan Waterman
Absent: Mary Trerice

Meeting convened by Sarah, 7:20; agenda reviewed.

Minutes: March minutes approved

Act 171 Workshop follow up: Bram provided an online link to the presentation I by Monica P. at CVRPC, which is very useful. Sarah went to the Planning Commission meeting this past Monday; they intend to have a public hearing on the zoning revisions in June. After discussion, we decided that when the draft is made public in advance of the hearing, Jan will forward it to Monica to request her review (of sections relevant to Act 171) and her comments.

Green Up: Becky has things well in hand. Twinfield will participate again (this year they have a rain date), so she ordered 2 trailers for the collected trash. We'll have coupons from Positive Pie, and Kathy Bizocco will post notices on the town website and calendar. Discussed possibilities for limited recycling. Volunteers shifts and posters were assigned.

Tree and Shrub Sale: Sarah reported. Orders are down a little bit – the weather hasn't been inspiring for gardeners. Details were finalized for volunteers' tasks: Friday April 27, 4 pm to assemble orders at Bram's barn; pick up Saturday morning 9: to 11:00 at the Mill St. park. The Marshfield CC is comfortable with us discussing with them our participation in future sales at a later date.

Emerald Ash Borer: Extended discussion; several CC members interested in helping to monitor the occurrence here in town, but we need training. Charlie will contact someone at the ANR who's working on this to see how we can coordinate with one of their survey teams.

Outreach: Sarah is partway through a list of where street trees are planted on private property (within public right-of-way). Kim has drafted an informational letter to those landowners, and Sarah shared letters from 2009 that might be useful to work with. We briefly went over ideas we originally had about expanding the content of outreach efforts.

Town Website: Kim has a date set soon with Kathy Bizocco for training on how to use the website, so she can not only post meeting minutes, but also explore her ideas of how to add more information and make our page much more attractive and useful.

Stormwater Management: The State has awarded grants for pilot projects in the Plainfield/Barre area. Their number one project is for stormwater management at our Health Center. CVRPC is taking the lead, with input from Friends of the Winooski. Also, a complaint was registered with the state about logging done at Allenwood Farm. The State Dept. of Environmental Conservation/Stormwater Management Program, Forest and Parks, and Vermont Land Trust are involved in enforcement action.

Upcoming events: Thursday May 3rd is the annual **Arbor Day Conference** – VCFA, 8:30-3:45. Registration is \$40; we can reimburse CC members. *The Vermont Arbor Day Conference is designed for the stewards of Vermont's urban trees and community forests and will provide an opportunity to enhance technical skills, engage in urban forestry hot topics, and network.* **Deadline to register is April 25.**
<https://vtcommunityforestry.org/news/events/vermont-arbor-day-conference-2018>

Also on **May 3**, the libraries and CCs of Marshfield and Plainfield are hosting **Tom Wessels** at the Plainfield Opera House, 6:30-8:00 pm. He will speak about **Self-Organization, Co-Evolution, Resiliency & Stability."**

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.
Next meeting will be May 16th, at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Waterman
Co-chair, Secretary