

Plainfield Conservation Commission Minutes  
October 21, 2020

**Present:** Julie Hackbarth, Sarah Albert, Rose Paul, Becky Atchinson, Serena Matt, Mary Trerice and guest/zoom facilitator Sasha Thayer

We met via Zoom due to the continuing pandemic.

**Minutes:** September minutes were approved with no changes.

**Water Quality Training:** This will be held during our Nov. 18 meeting

**EAB Survey:** Work continues on mapping Plainfield's street ash trees by Joanne Garten. Additionally, Adam Zylka of the UVM Spatial Analysis Lab is developing the use of drones to identify tree species. A test area on East Hill Rd is here: <https://uvm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1bdd22c8edbe46fca18fc101e30b0517>

**Town Forest:** Rose will arrange a walk for late spring to check out the trail-side ash trees.

The puncheon board walk: Rose and Sarah met with Pete from Maple Hill School and he is eager to have his students take on this project ASAP. They will put in locally sourced hemlock boards and use heavy duty lag bolts to secure the boards. The old disintegrating puncheon was made from recycled cedar 10 years ago so we are expecting a much greater life from the new puncheon. Sarah will request pre-approval up to \$1000 from the Selectboard to purchase the material though she expects the costs to be considerably less. The money is to come from the Woodlands fund.

Gonyeau Rd. access: Rose is working on a letter to the Selectboard requesting that they schedule maintenance on the Class IV road as it is only passable by truck at this point. The washout is very contained and only a short portion of the road.

We offered a few suggestions and she will modify the letter and circulate it to us via email. (Sasha commented that the work required could be more than we suspect.)

**Waterwise Woodlands meeting:** Serena and Rose reported on the meeting. Covid has disrupted the project a good bit and the organizers are trying to involve the CCs of Cabot, Marshfield, and Plainfield to help reach out to private landowners whose land is in the Winooski River watershed. The idea seems to be to educate them and involve them in best practices of land management.

**Cross Vermont Trail:** The bridge over the Winooski project is underway! It still is on schedule to be completed this fall with a grand opening in the spring.

Adjourn: 8 pm

Respectfully submitted by Mary Trerice

