

Plainfield Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 16 October 2013

Present: Becky Buchanan (7:40), Becky Cushing, Julie Hackbarth, Kate Harper, Jan Waterman

Absent: Sarah Albert, Charlie Cogbill

Minutes: Minutes from September meeting approved.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted earlier via email by Sarah; reviewed. Discussed cost of pet waste bags, perhaps inquiring whether it might be possible to offer an option of donating one or two dollars to that purpose when registering dogs each year.

Green Up: Linda notified us that we need to designate a coordinator for 2014, and let her know who it is by end of November. Becky B. volunteered to coordinate.

Town Plan Update: Dave let us know that Alice has been adding comments; new comments are welcome. Please send them to her w/a cc to Bram and Dave. They're waiting for Will to incorporate some things he wants to add. He expects it will be another week or more before there's another draft to review. The Selectboard hopes to look it over at their meeting on Oct. 28.

Town Forest: Sarah submitted the grant application for trails design and construction; Jan brought a copy for people to see.

AVCC Summit: Becky C. reported; she and Sarah attended the October 5th event. Discussed comment made there by Kate McCarthy – It's important for us to define our role as a conservation commission. (i.e., education? advocacy?) Has the Plainfield Conservation Commission ever had a vision statement in place? Also, AVCC asks for us to consider how they can support us, and to let them know. We'll pursue these topics at a later meeting.

CVRPC Forest Stewardship Program: Becky C. also attended the latest meeting of this program, the focus of which was answering the question, "What do people value about our forests?" The group is moving away from a structure as a steering committee, and towards being a forum for discussion of subjects of interest to whomever wishes to participate.

Funding for survey and map of significant natural communities: Jan has obtained a few suggestions of possible funding sources as a result of initial queries. We need to do some research (what actually needs to happen, what will it cost?) before we begin considering any grant applications. Becky C. will check with a friend of hers who does this type of work, and Jan ask Brett Engstrom. Kate and Jan will follow up with possible funding sources to find out what their parameters are, when their grant cycles end, etc.

Request from Jan to authorize paying for printing of one color copy of VNRC's recent publication: *Community Strategies for Vermont's Forests and Wildlife: A Guide for Local Action*. Cost will be under \$35. Voted and approved.

Next meeting: November 20, 2013 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jan Waterman, Secretary
Plainfield Conservation Commission