

Plainfield Conservation Commission
December 16, 2015

Present: Sarah Albert, Becky Buchanan, Charlie Cogbill, Julie Hackbarth, Kate Harper, Jan Waterman

Absent: Mary Trerice

Guests: Jessica Rubin (8:00) and Dave Strong (8:05)

7:15 Convened

Minutes of November meeting were approved .

Annual Report: Narrative reviewed, adjusted and approved.

Annual Budget for 2016/17: Approved. Level funded, except that budget for Town Forest signage was eliminated, as funds for this purpose will now come from the Town Forest Fund.

Donations: Discussion about use of money donated during the Sue Morse presentation. We agreed with the other sponsoring organizations (Marshfield Conservation Commission, Jacquith Library, and Cutler Library) to apply it to further educational events, such as the next evening with Sue Morse (on the subject of climate change), which is already in the planning stages. Loona Brogan has been asked by the organizing group and has agreed to oversee the funds. Sarah will initiate further discussion with the group about establishing a means of keeping track of totals as they're applied to and collected from future events.

Street Tree Fund: Sarah will remind the Selectboard and town clerk about the need to formally establish a Street Tree Fund, for designation of proceeds from our annual plant sale.

Public Forum: The presentation of Brett Engstrom's final report on Plainfield's significant natural communities inventory will take place on Monday, April 4th, at the Town Hall/Opera House at 7 pm.

Town Forest Work Day: Planned for Sunday December 21, 10:30-12:30. Jessica briefly mentioned a possible course of discussion about dealing with invasive plants; we will pursue this at our next meeting. Also noted: Sarah will circulate the draft grant proposal for improvements to the Town Forest trail head and parking area, to be submitted in February. She will need feedback from us before she sends it in.

Plainfield Resiliency project: Dave presented background on the \$10,000 grant the town received from the Lake Champlain Basin Program, and presented a draft work plan and budget for the project. We reviewed and extensively discussed the plan. The Conservation Commission's support for the project was given by consensus.

9:15 Adjourned

Next meeting: January 20, 2016 - 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jan Waterman, Secretary