

Conservation Commission Meeting—Notes

(not a regular meeting)

January 17, 2018

Present: Becky Atchinson, Kim Sudol, Sarah Albert, Julie Hackbarth, Charlie Cogbill, and Jan Waterman

Absent: Mary Trerice

BioFinder workshop: This special meeting, held at Cutler Library, featured Monica Przyperhart from VT Fish & Wildlife. She came to teach us about using the BioFinder website. BioFinder is a database & map developed by the ANR showing locations of high priority natural communities, habitats & species.

After a short presentation on the background need for this website, she walked us through several ways to navigate it. There followed a lengthy Q & A session while we practiced, with Monica's help, finding our way around the site. We held this meeting at the Cutler Library because of the availability of wifi, access to library computers, and because the library allowed us to spread out and work on our own computers.

Act 171 workshop: After Monica's presentation we discussed a date in April for her to return to introduce us, and hopefully also the Planning Commission, to the new statutory requirements of Act 171, which relates to planning and the preservation of forest integrity, connectivity, etc. We chose options of either Monday, April 2 (regular meeting night for Planning Commission,) or April 18th (regular meeting of Conservation Commission.)

Next meeting Wednesday February 21st, 7:15 p.m. in the meeting room at the municipal building, as usual.

Notes submitted by Jan Waterman
Secretary and co-chair