

Minutes of the Thetford Conservation Commission –23 April 2014 at 7:15 PM

Present: Li Shen, Bob Pulaski, Libby Chapin, Jason Berard, Ann Lavanway

Absent: Connie Snyder, Skip Sturman, Jeff Smith, Eric Pyle

Guest: Mike Pomeroy

1. Minutes from 9 April 2014 were approved as amended.
2. The Commission will again monitor development proposals and plan to attend DRB meetings as necessary.
3. Libby gave an update on the planning for the vernal pool event on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The walk will be led by Dr. Mark McPeck.
4. Li talked about the upcoming birding walk on May 17<sup>th</sup> on the Taylor Floodplain Preserve. The walk will be led by Dr. George Clark.
5. Li told the Commission about a tree-planting event in West Fairlee on Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM onward. The location will be north of West Fairlee village.
6. Li and Libby gave a report on the Tactical Plan Watershed Meeting for “Basin 14” local rivers including the Ompompanoosuc, Waits and Wells rivers. At the meeting, Ron Rhodes talked with Li and Libby about having the fluvial erosion map adopted by the Select Board. There was discussion of bacterial contamination in the Ompompanoosuc River coming from septic systems and from local agriculture. Ron Rhodes spoke with Li and Libby about a program that identifies town culverts that could be replaced to improve habitat. He is willing to work on getting the grant money for culvert replacements. Mike would like to see how the town could work with Mr. Rhodes on Thetford culverts.
7. We should try to put up the new Bluebird houses on PMNA.
8. Li will send letters to the Hughes Forest abutters to let them know that we will be refreshing boundary blazes this year.
9. The Select Board included a biological survey of the proposed town trail in the plan for the trail. When the bid for trail construction is awarded, a biologist will be hired to do the survey.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28PM.

Reminder that Commission members should let Li know ahead of time if they cannot attend the next Conservation Committee meeting, so that she may plan accordingly.

Our next meeting is 28 May 2014.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Lavanway