

Minutes of the Thetford Conservation Commission – February 10, 2016

Present: Li Shen, Jason Berard, Steve Lehman, Connie Snyder, Jeff Smith, Bob Pulaski, Libby Chapin, Jim McCracken

Absent: Ann Lavanway

1. The minutes from the January 27th meeting were approved as amended.
2. Li reported that she girdled 25 pines overgrowing the alder stand at Post Mills Nature Area.
3. The group agreed to postpone the walk on PMNA to view the flagged route in the wooded part of the parcel. It was proposed to mark out a less steep, more inviting route once features on the ground, e.g. seeps and springs, are visible.
4. Jeff volunteered to pick up from Libby the tri-fold display board that TCC will use at Town Meeting. Li will reserve a table for TCC.
5. Ideas to encourage public involvement in invasive plant control were discussed. Libby reported that she has been in touch with Elizabeth Spinney who is hired by the state to help with invasive plant control. Elizabeth is willing to lead a plant identification workshop for the community. We agreed to focus mainly on garlic mustard as it is a recently-arrived invasive in Thetford.
6. Li will work on a list of recurring vs one-time management practices needed to maintain the town parcels covered in the Management Plan.
7. We agreed that renting the award-winning movie 'The Messenger' on songbirds by Su Rynard was a good idea, either as part of 'Backyard Biodiversity' or as a stand-alone educational event.
8. We discussed the 'Fairlee Forest Festival.'

Meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

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

Our next meeting is February 24, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Li Shen