

Minutes of the Thetford Conservation Commission – 20 March 2013 at 7:15 PM

Present: Jason Berard, Bob Pulaski, Eric Pyle, Connie Snyder, Li Shen, Skip Sturman, Libby Chapin

Absent: Ann Lavanway

Guest: Aaron Weed

1. Minutes of previous meeting were approved as amended.
2. Libby and Skip went over what was needed to prepare for the two speakers for 'Year of the Habitat,' in particular the talk by Sue Morse at the Elementary School. Libby had organized a list of jobs for people to volunteer for.
3. Taylor parcel: Connie reported that James Thaxton is waiting for specific wording from Upper Connecticut River Mitigation and Enhancement Fund (MEF) regarding protections for the meander belt of the Ompompanoosuc river.
4. Crown Jewel walks: A walk is in the works for the Dennison property on Robinson Hill Rd. The weekend of June 8/9th would probably be the best window (May 18th is a conflict with the West Fairlee 'Trees for Streams' buffer planting.)
5. Li reported on the discussion at the selectboard about legalizing ATVs on Class 3 and 4 roads.
6. Controlling thatch on PMNA fields by burning was discussed. Li will contact Jeff Sirjane.
7. Jason will look into having a predator baffle for a wood duck nest box fabricated at Riverbend workshop in Bradford.
8. Aaron Weed shared information about the invasive plant garlic mustard and its control. Deer encourage garlic mustard by excessive browsing of competing plants. Invasive plants take advantage of change (rather than driving change) and invasive plant problems in general are driven by land uses.