

Minutes of the Thetford Conservation Commission – 8 April 2015 at 7:15 PM

Present: Li Shen, Bob Pulaski, Skip Sturman, Jason Berard, Ann Lavanway

Absent: Libby Chapin, Connie Snyder, Jeff Smith,

Guests: Judy Ozahowski, Jim McCracken, Steve Lehman

1. Minutes from the 3/25/15 meeting were approved as amended.
2. The Commission members approved payment of a \$440.72 invoice for the April 16<sup>th</sup> talk by Sue Morse.
3. Members and guests signed up to provide support for the April 16<sup>th</sup> event.
4. Bridget Butler will not be able to give her presentation “Saving the Bird in the Bush” this spring. She may be able to come in the fall.
5. The logging on the Hughes Forest has been completed. The total stumpage fees to the town were \$62,893.63. The forester fees were 9.85%.
6. There was a discussion about the history of the Commission’s discussions with the Select Board about the use of funds from the harvest. There was an understanding at the start of the harvest that the funds would be used to maintain town lands.
7. Li gave an update on the Upper Valley Fish and Game Club lease. The lease will be limited to 50 acres for ten years. The State did find lead contamination in water on the site. Remediation does not require drastic action but measures do need to be taken to control lead on the site. More testing will need to be done. The State Fish and Game will help modify the site to reduce lead contamination on the site. The club will be closed on Sundays for three years while this work is being done. The Development Review Board will review the zoning permit for the use of the site by the club next Tuesday.
8. The Ompompanoosuc water sampling will use old sites and four new sites. The sampling locations will be set with help from DEC and local conservation commissions. The sites will likely be in West Fairlee. The White River Natural Resources Conservation District does not know if the grant has been funded.
9. Li reported that Connie has suggested that we do a crown jewel walk on the Town Forest and invite Fish and Game Club members.
10. Judy Ozahowski is interested in joining the Commission.
11. Li will ask James Dixon of the Select Board if the Commission may have alternate members.
12. Jason would like to talk about what to do about garlic mustard at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24PM due to heavy snow and poor road conditions.

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 22 April 2015.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Lavanway