

Minutes of the Thetford Conservation Commission – 22 May 2013 at 7:15 PM
Present: Li Shen, Bob Pulaski, Connie Snyder, Ann Lavanway, Jeff Smith, Libby Chapin, Eric Pyle, Jason Berard

Absent: Skip Sturman

Guests: Mike Pomeroy, Ehrhard Frost

1. Minutes from the 5-8-13 meeting were approved.
2. Ehrhard presented a plan for pine tree thinning on a stand that has pine canker at the Hughes Forest. The Commission is considering having some areas cut as a part of the management plan. The plan discussed is for a harvest that would be done this winter.
3. The Commission passed a motion to authorize the chair to sign the letter of agreement for the forestry work on Hughes Forest. The agreement will be forwarded to the Selectboard.
4. Mike answered questions on several topics:
Status of Thetford State Forest land: State is still interested in turning over the land to the town, but person in charge is busy with another project. The Commission would like to see the state parcel on Houghton Hill Road included in the acquisition of the state land by the town.
The Town Forest lease expires in 2014.
Trails Plan: Phase two of the Thetford Hill plan – (a trail from the library to the Thetford Hill post office with a connection to Houghton Hill Rd.) will happen this summer.
The town-wide trail system plans will be revisited by the Selectboard this summer.
5. Mike has asked the Commission to develop town policy for mowing that takes into consideration invasive control and wildlife considerations (eg. Bird nesting protection). He would also like to have the Commission show the highway department how to identify invasive plant species.
6. Li gave an update on the Taylor Farm conservation project. Bob Linck of the Vermont Land Trust says that the amount of money that needs to be raised is \$60,000. Li will send Commission questions back to VLT.
7. Jason gave an update on the Trees for Streams planting in West Fairlee.

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

Our next meeting is June 12, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Lavanway