

Minutes of the Thetford Conservation Commission – 9 January 2013 at 7:15 PM

Present: Jason Berard, Bob Pulaski, Eric Pyle, Ann Lavanway, Amy McElroy, Li Shen, Libby Chapin

Absent: Connie Snyder, Skip Sturman

Guests: Ben Kinne

1. Ben introduced himself and talked about his interest in conservation.
2. Minutes from December 12, 2012 were approved as amended.
3. Today is Amy McElroy's last meeting. We are all grateful for her dedication and outstanding service to the Commission.
4. Ann will take over the responsibilities of secretary.
5. Town Meeting is March 2nd. We decided that we will have a display at town meeting. We will display photographs and a summary of this year's events. We will post a copy of the Walking Guide with information about the TCC web page. We will have the "Wildlife Friendly Backyards" handout and Libby will contact Kevin Brown from E.C. Brown's nursery about a list of plants that are wildlife friendly.
6. Linking Lands: We have only scratched the surface of examining the LLA 'linkage areas' where animals cross from one habitat block to another. It involves counting and identifying tracks on both sides of a road, for which snow is needed. Commission members will organize an outing to identify and count tracks.
7. Trees for Streams money: According to Bear Creek consultants, none of the Thetford landowners who expressed interest in a buffer planting have viable sites. Mary Nealon (Principal scientist) asked if Thetford would be willing to re-allocate its 0.75 acres of intended buffer plantings to a big project in W. Fairlee. Li moved that Thetford re-allocate its 0.75 acres of buffer plantings to W. Fairlee. Libby seconded. The motion passed.
8. Libby reported on the education sub-group. They are considering either The Year of Global Warming or The Year of the Habitat for this year's education theme. Possible guest speakers were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

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 January 23, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Lavanway