

Minutes of the Thetford Conservation Commission – October 10, 2012 at 7:15 PM

Present: Connie Snyder, Jason Berard, Bob Pulaski, Eric Pyle, Skip Sturman, Ann Lavanway, Amy McElroy

Absent: Li Shen, Libby Chapin

Guests: none

1. Minutes from September 26 were approved as amended.
2. Budget update – Eric submitted a 2013 budget to the Selectboard. Eric spoke to Jill Graff and clarified the status of the budget. The total amount requested for our 2013 budget is \$725 for the operating budget, plus \$5000 for the Conservation Fund. Our budget does not pay for the WHIP program at PMNA or the money used to support the management plans of town-owned properties. Those items are budgeted separately by the Selectboard. We would like to know what money the Selectboard is budgeting for the Management Plans for 2013. The amount was \$5000 last year.
3. Education/Outreach Sub-committee report - Skip reported that there will be a family event on October 28, which will include outdoor activities and the movie, The Lorax. This will be the final Year of the Tree event.
4. We discussed how we will spend the remaining money in our budget. Some suggestions were: books or DVD's for the library, a conservation themed contest, support for a conservation project or trip at one of the schools. We will discuss this at our next meeting.
5. Connie reported on the Linny Levin trail work – What was learned, ideas for future projects, publicity, and outreach to the schools were discussed. Hypertherm's help was huge. Connie was so impressed with the positive attitude that all of the volunteers brought to the work days. The Commission feels a great appreciation to everybody who helped with the project.
6. Connie, Jason, and Bob are planning a UVLT monitoring visit to the Pegjack forest. They discussed including the Conservation Commission on the walk and expanding the scope of the walk to include the nearby Uhlein property. The Uhlein tract is 15 acres and is owned by the Conservation Commission.
7. Ann and Eric reported that they went to a Latham Road site visit regarding a potential building project near a wetland. This project has been approved by the DRB.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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 November 14, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy McElroy