

Hartland Conservation Commission
Minutes: 10 May-2017

Next Meeting: 14-June-2017

Attending: Rob Anderegg, Chris Collier, Guy Crosby, John Dumas, Dean Greenberg, Knox Johnson, Cordie Merritt, Zach Ralph,

Topics Discussed:

- Minutes from our 12-April meeting were approved after two sentences from Update 2 (Rob sought input...and...He has yet...) were removed.
- Green Up Day was quite successful. Rain held off for most of the morning and over 1,100 deposit containers were separated from the trash. One submission was received from a student at HES. It was approved that we would give a prize (\$20 maximum) to that individual. Dean will contact Jenny for suggested appropriate titles.
- Our second walk on the Park and Ride property will be held this week. Dean will notify members of the date and time. Rob has spent some time developing a trail on the property.
- To accommodate our presentation at Old Home Day we will need 2 or 3 booth spaces. Dean will contact John Leonard to request contiguous spaces. Our presentations will include the importance of pollinators, as well as stream buffers, an invasive plant display and information on flood resilience
- Rob outlined some of his findings related to the Howe Farm. It comprises about 35 acres fronting mostly on Mace Hill Road. About 6 acres is open land the remainder is forested. Rob suggested UVLT and the Town as sources of information related to their desires.
- Timber and Stone's proposal for the 17 acre wood was discussed. David Sobel is making a film with HES students which should generate more interest in the outdoor program. It was agreed that we would wait to see the new Principal's and faculty's feelings on the program before we make further suggestions. Rob will contact Josh and explain our reasoning and the delay in making a decision. In the event this project continues to be viable the possibility of a committee made of members of this group, the Selectboard (SB), and school should be considered.
- Our information on the Town website is up to date.
- Plans for water testing are progressing. Dean will coordinate with Heather Morse at North Hartland Lake to sample on the same day in order to see how our data compares to theirs. The first sample will be taken in early June.
- Jennifer has contacted Jackson to see about space at the community garden for some pollinator partnership education.

Other Business

- Siltation continues on Meacham's field. Somewhere in this area there is a proposed solar array under consideration.
- The logic behind the removal of vegetation from the slope above the library field was discussed. Dean will address a letter to Bob and the SB to try to determine their reasoning. Significant erosion has already occurred covering a good portion of the walking path and continuing onto the soccer playing field.
- Great River Hydro has purchased several dams in the area. We need to consider a letter to the SB urging support of a mitigation fund to compensate towns from damage caused by rapid, frequent changes in water level.
- Zach said there is a program on carbon sequestration at Coolidge State Park.

Submitted by Dean Greenberg