

TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
April 5, 2016
6:00 P.M.
Council Room, Municipal Building

PRESENT:

Joe Dembeck, Chairman
Robert McGorty, Vice Chairman
Sherri Vigue
Derek Ellis
Corey Johnson
Tristen Hinkle
Cynthia Kirk, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Corey Hinkle

PUBLIC PRESENT:

1) QUORUM:

Conservation Commission meeting called to order at 6:00 PM, quorum was present.

2) MINUTES OF THE March 1, 2016 CONSERVATION MEETINGS TO BE APPROVED:

Motion by Joe Dembeck to approve the March 1, 2016 Conservation Committee minutes as written.
Seconded by Bob McGorty. Motion passed 6-0.

3) OLD BUSINESS:

-2016 Activities- Discussion

- SPARC Calendar Update (Derek)

Joe asked if the calendar is still being worked on. Derek said they are hoping to have it completed and posted to the public by April 22. He has been working on doing a bunch of mapping for it right now. Once it is completed then there will be a link on the town's website that will take you to the full web page. Bob asked how people will be able to add to the calendar. Derek said right now everything is being fed through Jeff Hewett but eventually they hope to have several committee members that will be able to upload events.

4) NEW BUSINESS:

- Stream Temperature Monitoring

Joe said that this is the opportunity that they have to work with the US Fish & Wildlife Service to put some water temperature monitors into Cold Brook and Whitton Brook. They are having a meeting next week in Augusta if anyone is interested in going. He said once they install the monitors then they would sit there all summer and then they would pull them out in the fall. He should be able to go to the meeting next week and get more information on this.

-2016 Stream Water Quality Monitoring

Joe said he ran into Mary Ellen Dennis with DEP and she said she should have the report from last year's monitoring out soon for them. She will also be setting up a time soon to do a training with them so they can do it again this year. If anyone is interested in helping this year let him know. He is also going to be

checking with Peter to see if he wants to help again this year. Tristen said that Corey H. wanted to help with that this year. Corey J. said he would also like to help as well. Corey also said he was up by the pond recently and almost all of the ice is out of it but there is a lot of debris in the area that it flows out of. Joe said that usually will work its way out and they also check for any beavers up there to.

5) UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES:

Joe asked if anyone was involved with the Envirothon. Tristen said no. Joe said he will he will send some information to her about it.

Joe told everyone that on April 23rd Somerset Woods is hosting an event at the community center. It is a presentation by Wind Over Wings which is a bird rehabilitation facility. They will have live birds there to talk about so it might be interesting for the kids to go to.

On Thursday May 5th Joe will be helping to put on an invasive pest and invasive plant workshop at the Yankee Woodlot.

6) ADDITIONAL MEMBER & STAFF ITEMS:

Tristen- Bioblitz

Tristen said that the school has partnered with the National Geographical Alliance and on May 19th they will be doing a participating in a nationwide bio-diversity day. What that means is they will be sectioning off the woods behind the school into 10' x 10' areas and will be trying to identify everything that they have back there in a 24 hour period. Tristen was wondering if anyone on the committee would be interested in lending their expertise to help them identify things. Joe asked what time they would need them. Tristen said they could accommodate anytime that they are available. Tristen also said if any of them know other people that might be able to help in identifying birds and insects she would like to contact them. She said they will probably be doing something at the dome such as a bbq and she could list the Conservation Commission as a sponsor of it if they would like to help with that. Joe said that would be a nice thing to join in with. Bob asked if this is going to try and make this an annual thing. Tristen said she isn't sure yet but she would like it to be.

Corey said that Greg Dore told him that his budget has gone through so far so hopefully they will be able to do some tree planting. Everyone agreed that would be a great project for them.

Motion by Bob McGorty to adjourn at 6:35 pm. Seconded by Joe Dembeck. Motion passed 6-0.
Next meeting scheduled for May 3, 2016.

Minutes approved May 3, 2016

Chairman
