

TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 3, 2016
6:00 P.M.
Council Room, Municipal Building

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

PUBLIC PRESENT:

1) QUORUM:

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

2) MINUTES OF THE April 5, 2016 CONSERVATION MEETINGS TO BE APPROVED:

Motion by Derek Ellis to approve the April 5, 2016 Conservation Committee minutes as written.
Seconded by Bob McGorty. Motion passed 7-0.

3) OLD BUSINESS:

- SPARC Calendar Update (Derek)

Derek said the website is very close to being finished. The only thing keeping it from the public right now is the committee decided to go through Main Street's domain name. If anyone has any events to put on it right now then just get them to him for now. He said it should be up and running for the public within the next few weeks. Tristen said she would like to get the Bio-Blitz on there. Derek said to just email him the information.

Joe said that Peter Whitkop and himself have met with Mary-Ellen Dennis from the DEP about the water quality monitoring today and got all of the equipment from her to start the testing. He said they will start next week with doing the monitoring on an every other week basis. If anyone would like to help with it then he can bring the stuff to the next meeting or they can meet up with him onsite to see how it is done. He is working on the schedule right now and will email that out to everyone by next Friday. Corey H. said he would like to help them with that. Tristen asked what type of things they are testing for. Joe said they are looking at the water temperature, dissolved oxygen as well as the conductivity. Bob asked how long they do the monitoring for. Joe said from the middle of May to the middle of October. Also when they met with Mary-Ellen today they decided not to do separate water temperature monitoring through the US Fish & Wildlife Service because they were only going to be able to get a couple monitors for it and they would really need at least 6-7 for Whitten Brook to get good data from it. Also there were several meetings they would have had to attend.

4) NEW BUSINESS:

Tristen asked what time anyone might be available to help with the Bio-Blitz at the Marti Stevens School on May 19th. It starts at 8:30 am. Tristen said any help would be great. They have all the ipads now to take the photos and they will be using the inaturalist app. Joe said he will be there in the morning. Derek said he can come as well if she needs him. Tristen said that would be great. Tristen asked Joe if there were any tools she should have available that day. Joe suggested some nets for the stream, some magnifying glasses and some microscopes. Derek asked when it gets done that day. Tristen said by 2:15 pm.

5) UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES:

Joe said that Thursday May 5th is the invasive pests/plants workshop at the Cooperative Extension office.

May 22nd Somerset Woods will be doing a paddle on Smith Pond in Cornville. Derek asked what time. Joe said it starts at 9:30 am. Eric Lahti will be leading it. It will be a very nice paddle with a lot to see.

Derek said the Boy Scouts will be hosting a clinic for building cardboard boats on the West Side of Lake George on May 14th if anyone would like to learn how to do that.

6) ADDITIONAL MEMBER & STAFF ITEMS:

Joe reminded everyone that after their June meeting they will have to vote for a new chairman and vice-chairman so everyone should think about who they would like. He would like to see someone else try filling the seat next year.

Derek said at Lake George the office will now be open Monday -Friday with someone in there most of the time. They are also working on updating the website which will be very helpful. They are also thinking of having some sort of sign by the entrance showing upcoming events.

Motion by Bob McGorty to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Seconded by Joe Dembeck. Motion passed 7-0.
Next meeting scheduled for June 7, 2016.

Minutes approved _____, 2016

Chairman
