

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

June 21, 2022

Present: Karen Robbins (Acting Chair), Jesse McMahon, Priscilla Tucker, Clarke Cooper, Paul Schlein, Bob Ater, Jody Jones, Michelle Gaillard, Michael Krindler, Jenna Howard, Erin Hart and family

1. The meeting, held at the Town Hall parking lot, was called to order at 5:00 PM.
2. The minutes of the May, 17 2022 meeting were unanimously accepted.
3. Mail: none
4. Swearing in. Barbara Boyce was unable to attend the meeting to perform the swearing in of new members. There was a brief discussion regarding whom and how often members of the committee need to be sworn in.
5. Community Resilience Partnership.
 - a. The committee reported out on connecting with town departments regarding climate change related impacts, e.g. what issues they could identify and how they might be resolved. This activity was in preparation for a town-wide workshop the committee plans to hold in August.
 - b. The committee then discussed various options for conducting the workshop including multiple charrette-style meetings with a facilitator. Jody suggested creating a town webpage with links to documents relevant to Community Resilience Partnership activities. Karen provided a synopsis of the State Climate Action Plan.
6. Sewall Pond Conservation Area. The committee discussed litter patrol, efforts to restore vegetation and signage. Members volunteered for July clean-up and monitoring for the month of July.
7. Alewives. Karen reported on the first meeting of the Alewife working group. This committee is assessing the need for a town Fish Commission to manage the alewife fishery. Karen declined again this year compensation for staff time to install and remove the monitoring trap.
8. Saltwater Access. Bob Ater proposed constructing a set of guidelines when considering sites for saltwater access. He requested help in developing said guidelines. Jesse suggested a one-page document would be most useful. Michelle Gaillard and Mike Krindler expressed interest in participating. There was a brief discussion about the complexities associated with identifying potential sites.
9. iNaturalist project site for Arrowsic. Priscilla volunteered to write a short piece for the Arrow describing the development of an iNaturalist project site for Arrowsic. Developing an iNaturalist site for the town is an opportunity for the town to document the diversity of plants, animals and fungi in Arrowsic. Town residents will be able upload their observations to the project site. iNaturalist, in turn, can provide help in identification.
10. Nature Notes: Jesse reported that the hummingbirds in her yard have been especially active at her feeders. Paul reported on a “mystery” bird song that has become the dominant call in his woods. He is hoping to connect the song to a sighting of the bird to solve the mystery. He has seen scarlet tanagers and observed a mink’s routine of

coming and going on his property. He also shared his quite precocious grandchildren's knowledge of the natural world.

11. The meeting adjourned at 6:44PM.

12. The next meeting will be July 19, 2022 at 5PM at the Arrowsic Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Tucker, for Karen Robbins (Acting Secretary)