

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

April 21, 2020

Present: Phine Ewing (Chair), Clarke Cooper, Susan Fenn, Noreen Blaiklock, Jesse McMahan, Paul Schlein, Karen Robbins, Slade Moore (DMR-Maine Coast Program), Jim Stump (Arrowsic Road Commission Chair)

1. The virtual meeting was called to order at 5:10PM
2. Slade Moore representing the "Coast Wise Approach to Tidal Crossings" Steering Committee, reviewed the history and goals of the project. Using the "Stream Wise Crossings" program as a model they are working towards delivering a guidelines document by early fall 2020 with outreach and training available by summer 2021. He was asking us to respond to a community survey they have developed to gather information to inform the creation of the guidelines, to find out if Arrowsic has any identified needs and to "test" the survey questions. There is a statewide data set of tidal restrictions that will be available to the public in the near future. They have identified 7 or 8 tidal restrictions in Arrowsic of which 3 or 4 are private. Jim thinks that having a set of best practices for roads would be helpful for the Road Commission for both responding to and planning for sea-level rise. Slade asked that names of other town officials who should be included in the discussion be passed on to him.
3. The minutes of the March 17, 2020 meeting were accepted as written.
4. Mail: Phine stopped by the Town Hall yesterday and our mail box was empty.
5. Phine and Jesse are signing up for the stream crossing/culvert seminar.
6. Nature's Notes Blog: Phine will confirm with Karen Dowell that it is ready to be published to the whole Town and have a notice sent to residents.
7. ACC web-site need to be updated, both for membership and content. Jesse will write a small blurb about the Picture Post Project.
8. The Holt Forest talk is postponed until further notice.
9. Picture Post Project: Clarke had a good conversation with Maryann Nahf about aggregating our data with a larger region. They are going to continue the conversation.
10. Phine met with the Select Board regarding the Comprehensive Plan. They are in agreement that it should be revised.
11. Alewife Restoration Project: The trap will not be set this year in order to conform to the COVID-19 physical distancing recommendations. In a couple of weeks, individuals or family units may be able to dip net fish and collect scale samples.
12. Water Quality Schedule: May 19th Karen and Phine.
13. Sewall Pond clean-up schedule will commence at the May meeting.
14. Nature's Notes: Noreen saw a female eagle at Winnegance cruising low over the Kennebec River. Jesse saw 8 (eight) eagles "group soaring" as if for pleasure. Susan saw lots of amphibians during the big rain on April 2nd moving to and from the vernal pool near her house. When walking the Mill Pond Trail, she saw a pine warbler, a

palm warbler, a great blue heron, a hermit thrush, tree swallows and blue birds.
Phine just now (while we were meeting) saw a turkey fly into a tree to roost.

15. Other: There is some concern that the trails to Squirrel Point and Baldhead are being damaged from over use by both walkers and mountain bikes
16. The meeting adjourned at 6:12PM.
17. The next meeting will be May 19, 2020 at 5 PM. Meetings will be conducted virtually until physical distancing recommendations are lifted. Phine will have the Town Administrator send an announcement to Town residents to this effect. And remind them to contact Phine if they would like to participate in the meeting on-line in real time.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Robbins, Acting Secretary