

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

January 15, 2019

Present: Phine Ewing (Chair), Noreen Blaiklock, Susan Fenn, Clarke Cooper, Karen Robbins

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:02PM
2. The minutes of the December 18, 2018 meeting were accepted as written.
3. Conservation Area Matters: John Wood has finished the survey of the Sewall Pond Conservation Area AKA Sewell Pond Conservation Area. A protracted conversation about the appropriate spelling of the pond's name ensued. The map identifies it as "Sewell" and the deed provided spells it "Sewall". Looking through town records finds both an "a" and an "e". Karen will speak with some of the historians in Town that have access to various deeds to see if the earliest reference can be found. It is also noted that some people aren't consistent in the spelling from one instance to another. The white oak plank has been procured for the sign replacement. Phine will see if she can source a separate stand-alone reflective sign that states that the area is closed dusk to dawn.
4. Paul has received another request to use our Stewardship Guide as a template. The Commission renewed its decision to allow usage as a template with credit to Harpswell and others. Additionally, it was decided that the images are not sharable as some have young children in them and each town would be better served to use their own local images. Phine will let Paul know of the decision. It was also noted a list of towns that are building off the Stewardship Guide should be kept.
5. Phine reported that Bob Reyes (Phippsburg) will be drafting a letter of Conservation Commission Consortium support for Dr. Groden's Brown-tail moth research in the next week or so. The Commission discussed how Arrowsic could best support the research. We are supportive of research that improves our understanding of the moth, its life-cycle and any species specific remediation that may be effective. The Commission continues to encourage mechanical pruning and wearing appropriate personal protective gear as these protocols seem to be the most effective ways to reduce the interaction between the moth hairs and human skin.
6. The Conservation Commission continued the discussion of tick-borne diseases. There was some interest in the various vaccines that have been available over the years.
7. Paul Perkins a former Arrowsic resident and current Bath resident is meeting with the Select Board to discuss a Carbon Fee Dividend Proposal as a method to reduce human created carbon emissions. Phine will ask if the meeting can be opened to a public conversation among Arrowsic residents.
8. Nature's Notes: Clarke saw a healthy fox on Spinney Mill, an ermine at the Holt Forest and a shrike at home. Noreen has a chickadee residing in a cat bird's nest in her forsythia. Susan has regularly seen a sharp-shinned hawk and barred owl. Phine had a pair of great-horned owls owling. Mike Brown of DMR has sent the scale sample results for last year's alewife season. Over all..."Sewalls (sic) Pond meets most of the bench marks that we want to see in a growing population."

9. Other: A sample of a picture post top for documenting sea-level rise was shared. Karen will price out post holders and 4 X 4's for the project and follow up with MDOT for permission to set the Route 127 monitoring stations. The Arrowsic Road Commission has given permission for town roads with the understanding that travel and winter maintenance won't be impeded.
10. Mail: KELT is up for accreditation renewal and invited public comments. Karen will draft a letter of support to be reviewed by the Commission.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37PM
12. The next meeting will be February 19th at 5PM at the Arrowsic Town Hall.

Respectfully,
Karen Robbins, Acting Secretary