

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

December 18, 2018

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:02PM
2. The minutes of the October 16, 2018 meeting were accepted as written.
3. The fall field trip was taken on November 11th. Ten intrepid walkers and one dog walked the IF & W land, found several very large mounds of Allegheny Hill ants and explored the Stinson cemetery. After a small trip and fall by one person, the group practiced their basic Wilderness Responder skills.
4. September's water testing results were received and Phine has asked Mary to pay the bill. Total Phosphorus was 20 ppb, Chlorophyll α at the surface was 0.005 and at two meters was 0.004. Doug Sutor reported the results from the sediment grab. Aluminum ratios are much higher than levels that offer protection against phosphorus release from the sediments. $Al/Fe > 3.0$ and $Al/P > 26$ are the minimum "protection" standards; Sewall Ponds values were $Al/Fe 22.03$ and $Al/P 209.65$.
5. The Conservation Commission received an e-mail from a concerned citizen regarding ATV use on Sewall Pond. Karen will respond and provide Warden Kulis' phone number. Currently, ATV's are allowed on the ice itself. The problem in the past has been that ATV's have accessed the ice by trespassing and damaging private property. Currently, the Holt Forest, the Town and Mrs. MacKenzie do not allow ATV's access and other properties are by permission only. It was also noted that fires are allowed on the ice without a permit and are not allowed on land without a permit.
6. Clarke shared mapping of the sea level rise of 1ft and 3ft on 2015's highest tide. It was decided to work toward setting up photo stations at the north causeway, the Rte 127 culvert south of Fisher Eddy Rd, the Sirois Rd, Indian Rest and Spinney Mill Rd. Karen will speak to MDOT and the Arrowsic Rd Commission to determine the permitting process required to install photo stations within the right-of-way without being in the traveled way.
7. Paul's draft to Brian Carlton regarding the town well was reviewed and approved by the Commission. Paul will send it to Brian.
8. The Conservation Commission received a second generous donation from Bruce Zuwalick for 2018 and Phine will send him a thank you note.
9. Phine will to ask for the Commission to stay on distribution for the Beaches Conferences even though no member will be able to participate at this time.
10. Brown-tail moth (BTM) conversations of recent weeks were summarized. Georgetown is continuing with their community outreach. Mill Island residents continue to explore different responses. Some residents have tried injection or spraying last year. Neither was very effective in their estimation. They continue to explore other options. Commissioners continue to refer residents to the Arrow article of BMP to limit contact with the BTM moth hairs.

11. Nature Notes: A Peregrine falcon was seen in the osprey nest on the Carleton Bridge. Noreen has a resident ermine. Sewall Pond iced over December 7th and had 2" ice by the 8th. It was noted that some bird watchers are expecting a finch eruption this winter.
12. Other: John White has reached out to the Commission expressing interest in joining the commission. As the Commission is fully populated at this time, Karen will invite him to be an alewife volunteer and let him know there may be other projects for volunteers to work on, such as the photo station project.
13. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37PM
14. The next meeting will be January 15th at 5PM at the Arrowsic Town Hall.

Respectfully,
Karen Robbins, Acting Secretary