

Arrowsic Conservation Commission
Meeting minutes for December 17, 2012

Present: Phine Ewing, Karen Robbins, Nancy Sferra, Noreen Blaiklock, Ralph Pope

Minutes for October were read and accepted as amended regarding the MHPC letter of permission.

The November field trip was attended by 18 people and all of our goals for the trip were met. Ralph found a *Campilium* moss, probably *stellatum*, a moss that likes richer soils and was found out on the marsh.

Air photos – The selectmen asked us to weigh in on the new air photos from the state. The town will need to pay extra for 6” or 1’ resolution air photos - \$2000 gets us 1’ resolution; \$2500 gets us 6” resolution. The standard available resolution will be 2’ - the decision by the CC was no.

Alewife stocking - Even though we requested alewives for stocking in Sewall Pond every year since 1989, the pond may not have been stocked every year. DMR only has stocking records for seven of those years - 1989, 1990, 1991, 2003, 2004, 2006, and 2012. Fish are taken from the Brunswick fishway, so they are not a local genotype. Funding and fish availability are the limiting factors. In 2001, the town report says 586 fish were stocked in Sewall Pond. DMR will continue to stock if they have the fish even if they aren't local fish. We will go through old CC minutes to see if there are any other records.

Sewall Pond - The bedrock around the culverts was mapped and preliminary analysis suggests a depth to bedrock of 13 feet on the pond side, 9 feet on marsh side of the culvert. Based on These data partners may need to ground truth with test borings. We have water clarity data since 1981, and our data shows a positive correlation between alewife numbers and improved water clarity. Water clarity trends across the state are going in the opposite direction potentially due to increasing water temperature and increasing length of open water season. Our chlorophyll is improving too. All of our deliverables for the grants are complete. Karen is trying to get us a project identification number from MDOT. Karen will talk to our legislative reps about the culvert project in the hopes it will get us attention when MDOT sends their project list to the legislature.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Sferra