

## ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

January 17, 2017

Present: Phine Ewing (chair), Paul Schlein, Clarke Cooper, Noreen Blaiklock, Karen Robbins

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:03 PM
2. The minutes of the December 16 meeting were accepted as amended.
3. The Conservation Commission has received a 2016 donation from Bruce Zawalick, a seasonal resident on the Steen Rd. The money will be added to the designated Alewife Account. Phine will write a thank you note and Karen will provide Phine with the tax deductible notation to be added to the note.
4. The Conservation Commission Consortium met on January 10th. Sam Saltonstall was present to talk about the window inserts. Nancy and Dot will be make up a folder of existing energy efficiency and weatherization resources. Each town might add the list to their town's website. The various projects that each town is currently involved in were discussed. The next meeting in March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6PM at the Phippsburg Town Hall.
5. Paul's draft "drought letter" was discussed. Because the state is forecasting continuing drought due to lack of precipitation, it was decided to generate and distribute a well survey even though our area has been downgraded from Severe in October of 2016 to Moderate as of last week. Keith Dresser's 1989 well survey was reviewed. Survey questions and the goals of the survey were discussed. Karen and Paul will finalize the draft survey for review at the next meeting.
6. The Commission discussed sunshine laws and the use of e-mail in doing the people's work. Commission members have agreed to be careful to only share research between meetings. Substantive discussions and decision making will take place in the meetings.
7. Nature's Notes: Noreen reminded us that winter moth damage is often confused with brown-tailed moth damage. She also noted that she heard a chickadee's mating call—about a month earlier than expected. Phine talked about the pond Charlie is hand digging and how it doesn't fill nor stay filled in a predictable way. Paul reported that after a dearth of gray squirrels a territorial pair are back. Clarke spoke of the easy tracking he enjoyed after the last snow and of the many fox.
8. The next meeting is February 21st at the Arrowsic Town Hall at 5 PM.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Robbins  
Acting Secretary