

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

July 21, 2015

Present: Phine Ewing (Chair), Clarke Cooper, Paul Schein, Mildred Stafford, Ralph Pope, Noreen Blaiklock, Karen Robbins

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.
2. The minutes of the June 16, 2015 were accepted as amended.
3. Millie shared a 1979 correspondence she had with then Governor Joseph Brennan. She expressed her concern that his proclamation to pick up roadside litter might be offensive to those who had been volunteering to do just that for so many years. She described the group of young people who helped her each year for nothing more than a trip to the Dairy Queen. She didn't want to lose their enthusiasm for such a dirty thankless job by "telling them they had to" as the proclamation suggested. Millie also shared Governor Brennan's response received 5 days later. Governor Brennan thanked her and her volunteers for their service and said he didn't mean it.
4. The unofficial notification regarding the Coastal Stewardship Publication Project is it went unfunded this round. Because of the expressed interest in the project the Commission has decided to go forward with the project and seek funding for the printing in the coming months. Karen will write a letter of invitation to the other towns asking for a kick-off meeting on September 22nd at 6PM at the Arrowsic Town Hall.
5. Water Access: The Commission will continue to try and contact the gentleman that purchased Annie Nodine's property near the Georgetown Bridge. Paul spoke with Tom Eichler and reported they have built the landscape wall on the water side of their property. The Commission will meet at the Town Hall August 18th at 5PM and carpool to Preble Point to visit the Town owned property there.
6. The commission was unable to find the notebook with the Selectmen's minutes after 2014. This is the second meeting the Commission hasn't found the notebook.
7. Trail work on the Sewall Pond Conservation Area was done June 29th. The downed trees were used for water bars and chips spread. Phine was able to determine the citronella odor was from the citronella ants residing in the chip pile.
8. Phine checked with Northeast Labs and found they don't do chlorophyll α analysis and the minimum price for phosphorus analysis is \$50.00. Paul will check with his contacts for other labs.
9. VLMP will hold its Annual Meeting this Saturday the 25th; Phine and Karen are going.
10. Water quality monitoring schedule: Karen and Ralph July 25th, Karen and Phine August 11th. Karen will be going out with Scott Williams of VLMP July 25th to review the pond's water quality.
11. Sewall Pond Litter Patrol Schedule 7/25-Millie, August 1 – Clarke, August 8th – Phine, August 15th – Paul.
12. Natures Notes: Cliff swallows are back to Millie's. Ralph reported that the increase in the Black Back Gull population is due to the increase in Eiders. Blackback gulls consider eider chicks delectable delights. North and South Sugarloaf Islands at the mouth of the Kennebec have numerous eiders, cormorants and blackback gulls. Noreen reported that her Japanese beetles are attacking the Japanese knotweed

instead of the more traditional raspberries. She also noticed that the composition of the seaweed population in the Reid State Park tide pools have changed significantly from years past. Paul reported (as did others) the apparent abundance of funnel shaped grass spider webs and lots of jumping spiders.

13. The June 16th HETL results were Total Phosphorus 24 $\mu\text{m}/\text{L}$, surface Chlorophyll a 0.013 mg/l, 2 meter Chlorophyll a grab 0.0076 mg/L.
14. The next meeting will be August 18th at **5PM** at the Arrowsic Town Hall.
15. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Robbins, Acting Secretary