

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

December 20, 2016

Present: Phine Ewing (chair), Paul Schlein, Mildred Stafford, Karen Robbins and for the public: Scott Woodman and for the Select Board: Bill Savedoff.

1. The public meeting regarding Brown-tail moth begin at 5PM. Brown-tailed moth and the expected increased infestation for 2017 was discussed. The experiences of several residents were discussed. Christine Woodman, Arrowsic's Health Officer, reported by e-mail that Sagadahoc Emergency Management encourages each town to address BTM concerns locally because the best management practice is dependent on site, moth density and resident risk. The public input included management practices that have been tried by Arrowsic residents and other towns. They include root injections of individual trees within the 50 foot shore land setback zone, aerial pruning, mechanical spraying, vacuuming, basal stem sticky tape and power washing. The use of personal protective gear was also discussed. After a robust discussion of efficacies, costs and risks, the Commission decided to stay in communication with the town's Health Officer and write an article for the upcoming Arrow. At the January meeting the possibility of: a Public Workshop, creating a tool "lending library" and writing a Notification of Pesticide Application ordinance for Arrowsic will be revisited and further action determined.
2. The minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting were accepted as written.
3. The November 13th Field Trip held at the Holt Forest was led by Jack Witham with assistance from Clarke Cooper and 22 people attended.
4. Ralph has asked to step down. The Commission reluctantly accepts his resignation and extends its gratitude for Ralph's years of service. Members might think about good candidates to fill his position.
5. The Conservation Commission Consortium meet on November 15th. Phine and Noreen are helping with conceptual layout of the energy efficiency brochure. The next meeting will be January 10th, 6PM at the Arrowsic Town Hall.
6. Paul hasn't had time to draft a "drought letter".
7. The PUC letter was sent and is in the Commission Minutes file.
8. Nature's Notes: Paul reported on the flock of turkeys that have been around since last fall. Phine reported that the turkeys are a good distraction for chicken predators at her house. Sewall Pond iced up around December 12th or 13th.
9. The next meeting is January 17th at the Arrowsic Town Hall at 5PM.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Robbins
Acting Secretary