

## ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

June 21, 2016

Present: Phine Ewing (chair), Ralph Pope, Paul Schlein, Mildred Stafford, Noreen Blaiklock, Karen Robbins

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM.
2. The minutes of the May 17, 2016 meeting were approved as written.
3. The spring monitoring season was summarized. The numbers weren't as high as hoped based on the 2012 season. Some poaching activity was noticed early in the season; Game Warden Kulis was notified. The sale samples have been sent to DMR. DMR is hoping to finish the 2015 Exploitation Analysis in the next couple of weeks and then age this year's scale samples and do the 2016 analysis.
4. Water sampling and litter patrol schedule were set. Water sampling: 7/5 Ralph and Karen, 7/19 Noreen and Karen. Litter Patrol: 6/25 Paul, 7/2 Ralph, 7/9 Ralph, 7/16 Millie
5. The Commission discussed the Brown-tail moth situation in Arrowsic. It was noted that best management measures need to be taken in the winter and early spring before the larvae leave the webbed nests and mechanical removal is the preferred method. The idea of having a town fund, similar to the septic disposal fund, which residents could use to help with the cost of mechanical removal was discussed. It was noted that if we do pursue this idea it would be at least another season before monies could be available due to the misalignment of the Brown-tail moth life cycle and the Town Meeting cycle. It was also decided that publishing a list of contractors that have the bucket truck and staff to do aerial mechanical removal would be helpful to town residents. The Conservation Commission will write an article for the February Arrow so residents think about Brown-tail moth while control actions can still be taken for the 2017 season.
6. In an effort to get a copy of the Stewardship Guide to new residents, we will draft a letter for the Select Board and ask them to send a copy of the Stewardship Guide to new residents. Phine and Karen will draft the letter for other members to review at the next meeting.
7. The commission will bring up Brown-tail moth concerns at the next Consortium Meeting in August. It seems to be an educational opportunity for all four towns.
8. Nature Notes: Foxes are more abundant than in recent years. Ralph's lobsters are mostly shorts or berried females. Snappers have been seen regularly nesting along the road and one swimming in Sewall Pond. Noreen had observed juvenile birds behaving differently than in the past.
9. The South Portland Pesticide Ordinance was discussed. Even though South Portland has been successful in crafting a broadly applied ordinance, the challenges of building agreement among stakeholders was noted.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10PM
11. The next meeting will be at 5PM on July 19, 2016 at the Arrowsic Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Robbins, Acting Secretary