

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

October 17, 2017

Present: Phine Ewing (chair), Clarke Cooper, Mildred Stafford, Noreen Blaiklock, Karen Robbins, Susan Fenn, Paul Schlein, Bob Ater

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:59PM
2. The minutes of the September 19, 2017 meeting were accepted as amended.
3. Phine approved payment for the HETL water testing invoices. September's invoice hasn't been received yet.
4. Bob Ater spoke about the practice of lighting off fireworks adjacent to Sewall Pond as well on the ice in the winter. He reported seeing it happen 10-20 times a year and has seen several patterns: at night from the Conservation Area swimming point and from the Route 127 access and during the winter from the ice around dusk. They are being fired by young adults and are large display style fireworks not fire crackers nor ashcan-cherry bomb types. He and the Commission are concerned about the disruption to the creatures in and around Sewall Pond, the fire hazard during dry seasons, the impact on the privilege of Route 127 access across Mrs. MacKenzie's property and wonders about possible water pollution or litter. Paul will find out for the Conservation Commission what State Statute allows. The Commission will develop and implement an appropriate response. Several ideas were discussed, signage, ordinance amendments, calling the Town Constable and/or Sheriff, educational outreach to residents. Bob agreed to talk to Mrs. MacKenzie and Doug Kulis, IF&W Game Warden, to see if they have any thoughts or information and report back to the Commission.
5. Waterfront access was discussed and no new properties were identified. It was noted the property on the corner of Steen and Baldhead Rd now has a foundation on it. Bob offered to assist as needed because he feels the lack of access every time he launches his boat from Bath.
6. This year's trail maintenance was completed by 6 volunteers on Saturday October 24. It is expected that the chip pile will be enough for at least one more year.
7. The Fall Festival Committee asked if we would like to have a Conservation Commission presence at this year's. It was decided that we didn't have any pressing issues or ideas to present at the Festival.
8. The welcome package including the Stewardship guide is being distributed to new people when they first come into the Town Hall. We will ask Paul Kaulkstein if he can have an attention grabbing banner on the town website to make finding the information more easily accessible.
9. The November field trip meeting will be Sunday the 12th at 10AM at the Clarke – Lake Settlement. The Spencer's have graciously offered to host and Jim Spencer has volunteered to give an overview of the history. The rain date will be the 19th and Phine will invite residents.

10. Phine spoke with Dick Tucker and he is happy to give a talk about his trip to The Artic. They will coordinate a date; it was suggested to make it the winter consortium meeting at Westport.
11. Clarke ask the Commission to think about having a Commission specific blog site as a way to communicate and share Nature's Notes with a wider audience. A .WordPress address would be free or a .com address would be \$4/month. Clarke offered to do the coordination if we decide to go forward. It seemed like an interesting idea and will be discussed next time. It was noted that Georgetown's Commission has a stand-alone website.
12. Clarke has finished loading the Well-head Survey data into the spread sheet and we will discuss the findings at the December meeting.
13. Nature's Notes: Noreen saw many huge flocks of grackles today. Susan noted that the mast years seem to be happening more frequently as this is a big acorn and pine cone year again. Phine had the first light frost at her house this morning.
14. The next meeting is December 19, 2017 at 5PM at the Town Hall.
15. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Robbins, Acting Secretary