

Arrowsic Conservation Commission Minutes
December 17, 2024

Present: Phine Ewing (Chair), Karen Robbins, Clarke Cooper, Carla Weeks, Jesse Nankin
McMahon, Jenna Howard

The meeting, held in person was called to order by Phine at 5:30 PM.

Minutes: The October Minutes were approved with Phine's edits.

Mail: The Commission received two invoices and three statements related to water quality testing on September 16. The bill was paid in November.

November Field Trip: Pierce was a great addition to the Blaiklock Farm trip. In attendance: Jesse, Phine, Karen, Clarke, Lisa, Pricilla and Mike.
Sam Saltonstall "Shrink Your Energy Bills" Talk: Event took place Tuesday November 19th at 5:30 PM. The Commission hosted it at the Town Hall.

MacKenzie Sewall Pond Water Access: Carla and Phine met with Noel Bicknell, MacKenzie Family Representative, to discuss erosion control and revegetation at the site. In the past, experts from Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation (AVSWC) came to the Sewall Conservation Area on the east side of the pond and recommended site-specific erosion control measures. Currently, AVSWC charges \$60/hr for consultations.

New Member: Priscilla Tucker has moved out of state so is no longer able to serve on the ACC. Former member Paul Schlein is interested though he may be away for three months each winter. Karen moved to recommend to the Select Board that Paul be reinstated. Seconded by Clarke. All in favor.

Pesticides: The ACC decided to make pesticides a focus area for 2025. This was in light of the wellhead study proposal by the Resilience Committee and the increased awareness of PFAS and other chemicals found in our waters, soil and air.

Bioblitz 2025: Phine will try to find the raw data and precise study location for the Jacobson and Jacobson study done on the Newtown Marsh in the early 1990's. If these data are found, a Bioblitz could be conducted at the at the same locations to document any changes in vegetation over time.

Nature Notes: Carla hasn't seen much wildlife except for mice – lots of mice. Clarke has a titmouse with a broken wing frequenting his bird feeder. Phine had three male ring-necked pheasants at her house for several days. One is still there. It is rumored that a Georgetown resident recently released over three dozen of them. Jesse heard a pileated woodpecker on one

of the recent warm days. Karen saw two adult bald eagles on the osprey platform located near the Wilder Bridge.



Next Meeting: January 21, 2025 at 5:30PM at the Town Hall.

Adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenna Howard