

ARROWSIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

October 21, 2025

Present: Phine Ewing (Chair), Paul Schlein, Jenna Howard, Karen Robbins, Guest NYU's Nicholas Hoynes and Alex Schwartz. Present on Zoom: Jesse Nankin McMahon, Clarke Cooper.

The meeting was called to order by Phine at 5:30 p.m. and Alex trained Jenna, Paul, and Phine on running a hybrid meeting. Karen has already been trained.

Pesticide Survey: Nick presents the survey data. Of 360 subscribers on the town email, 79 local households responded. 23 of 35 pesticide users use insecticides. 22 of 25 are using synthetic, 17 using organic. Paul notes the negative impacts of Roundup Orthro Home Defense and Talstar vs. BT. 68% of respondents apply pesticides themselves while 31% hire professionals. Karen notes the importance of protecting wellheads from pesticide contact. Nick notes there is a publicly available list of fined applicators. As a next step, Nick will share raw data file and Paul will work on an article for the community about what we learned from the data. Nick will be a resource for us in the future.

Minutes: September Minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

Town Event on October 25: We will create a visual overview of what we do for a community event next month that includes the upcoming winter moth talk, water testing, bioblitz, pesticide survey, climate resilience, field trips. This event will take place from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Karen is bringing a secchi disk, Paul will bring pesticide survey data. Jenna will bring photos and a poster to display.

Mail: The E. coli count done in early August was less than 1. Invoice Number #10204699 was received.

Upcoming Winter Moth Talk: Jessica Weller of Georgetown joined virtually to discuss the Winter Moth event on November 12. The Georgetown Historical Society can stream on Zoom and seat plenty of guests. The two Conservation Commissions will put on this event together.

Fall Field Trip: On November 2, we will go to Mill Pond Preserve, out to the Point. There will be a rain date of November 9. Later, when there is more growth, we will go on an outing to view and discuss invasives.

Nature Notes: Will be sent by email.

Adjourn at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jenna Howard.