

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission
Meeting January 14, 2020
Approved

Members present: Craig Heindel- Chair, Dennis Armell, Jen Cirillo, Amy Dohner, Ron Debellis, Jadziah Hannon Moonstone and Karen Pettersen

Guests: Krista Hoffsis
Peter Ross, Long Point Corp.

Craig opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The December 10, 2019 meeting notes were moved to be accepted as presented.

A. Emerald Ash Borer

1. The inventory of all the roadside ash trees is complete.
2. Craig will talk with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission about creating a map.
3. Joanne Garton, VT Urban and Community Forestry, sent Craig a map of the town showing the location of the 24" plus ash trees and a spread sheet of each tree's characteristics. Craig will try to print maps of all the ash trees identified.
4. Peter Ross is the lead for the ash trees inventory at Long Point. He has talked with Green Mountain Power. GMP said they don't have a management plan, however, their procedure has been to address the ash trees in Towns where EAB has been identified and specifically GMP r-o-ws adjacent to schools and fire station. Long Point doesn't have a management plan, yet. Pete questioned if the Town will be responsible for the ash trees along Bay and Long Point Road. Pete talked with 4 or 5 arborists. They say EAB might be in Ferrisburgh already, however, EAB hasn't been detected, yet. There are 300 +/- ash trees identified at Long Point, which would take Barrett's [Tree Service] from 3 to 4 weeks to remove those trees. Pete, also, contacted Gregory Smith, arborist, and Teachers Tree Service for approximate costs to remove 300 trees, and their rough estimates were \$32,000 and \$31,000, respectively.
5. Elise Schadler, Program Manager with the VT Urban and Community Forestry, told Craig she understood GMP is starting to develop an EAB management plan for the towns in central Vermont where EAB is present.
6. Craig will attend the Selectboard meeting on Jan. 21 to discuss the roadside ash tree inventory and will try to bring maps mentioned above. Craig talked with Joanne about how to coordinate the spreadsheets with the maps.
7. Craig thought it's not appropriate for the FCC on our own to write a management plan for a future EAB infestation. That issue should be decided by the Selectboard and/or John Bull.

B. UVM Capstone course pitch

1. Ron will pitch the next phase of the EAB inventory on January 16th to the Capstone source students, with an option to create a management plan, which would be presented to the Selectboard.

- C. Sue Morse- Town Forest wildlife walk – Jan. 24th
 - 1. Amy said the sign-up sheet is full, and there is a waiting list of interested people.
 - 2. Dennis will meet Sue and 2 interns at noon at the Town Hall’s parking area and bring them to the drop off area on Robinson Road. Amy gave Dennis the check for Sue’s services, which he will give to Sue on the 24th.

- D. Bat Presentation – Feb. 4th
 - 1. The presentation will be from 7:00 to 8:30pm at the Town Hall.
 - 2. Jen made a poster.
 - 3. Jen will advertise the event in 7 Days and Addison Independent, while Craig will put a notice on Front Porch Forum.
 - 4. Karen will set out the Town’s sandwich board a week before the event announcing the event.

- E. Bears in Vermont Presentation – April 16th
 - 1. Forrest Hammond, VT F&W Wildlife Biologist, confirmed the date for his presentation.
 - 2. Jen will fill out the form to secure the community space upstairs in the Town Hall.
 - 3. Dennis suggested sending the advertising poster to Rack and Reel.

- F. Husk cabin
 - 1. The Husk cabin may not be on the next ZBA agenda.

- G. Bicknell Tiny House
 - 1. David Swift, VTDEC Regional Engineer said they need a year round waste and water supply. Craig will wait until Swift returns his call regarding the Town’s approval.

- H. Land Use Regulation Update Committee
 - 1. Karen presented suggested wording for the Riparian and Wetland Sections in the proposed Land Use Regulations. After a discussion a number of corrections were suggested. Karen will incorporate those corrections and send out the new wording to the members.
 - 2. The next subjects for discussion will be Soil Erosion and Stormwater.
 - 3. There was a discussion regarding the accessibility by the public to information regarding the town’s natural resources, such as the VT Natural Resources Atlas, which is on-line. Craig didn’t want to have maps printed out for the public to access at the Town Clerk’s office, because they become out of date quickly. A solution would be to have a computer available to the public located in the Town Clerk’s office for the public to look up the VT Natural Resources Atlas, including instructions as to how to access the specific resource.

- I. Items 10 thru 15.
 - 1. Due to the time, these items will be discussed at our next meeting

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm. The next scheduled meeting will be February 11, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Pettersen, Secretary