

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission
Meeting November 13, 2018
Approved Copy

In attendance for the FCC: Craig Heindel, Chair
Karen Pettersen, Secretary
Dennis Armell, Treasurer
Jen Cirillo
Amy Dohner
John Medenwald

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

The October 9th meeting notes were moved to be accepted as presented.

- A. Brent Jerger, Shellhouse Mtn. Rd.: proposed salvage yard permit
 - 1. The Selectboard approved the salvage yard on 10/9/2018.
 - 2. Craig had submitted a letter, dated 9/23/2018, to the Selectboard, which is attached.
- B. Vorsteveld/ Arnold Bay tree cutting
 - 1. John wasn't able to attend the last Selectboard meeting.
 - 2. Rick Ebel, chair of the Selectboard, created a video, which he sent to John, showing the outfall of 2 drainage tiles draining flowing to the town road ditch.
 - 3. The Vorstevelds received the 1111 permit to work within the town right of way regarding the drainage tile.
 - 4. The Selectboard went into executive session, including Gerard Vorsteveld, John Bull, Rick Ebel, and John Medenwald, to discuss John Bull's plan to create splash pools to reduce the velocity of the discharge from the drainage tile.
 - 5. Craig informed the Commission he no longer has to recuse himself regarding this issue.
- C. Town Forest
 - 1. Craig, Karen, Dennis, Jen and John touched up old blazes along a portion of the south boundary line from the southeast corner to the top of the cliff.
 - 2. We found some downed trees across the trail near the gap in the ridge. There were no signs of bobcats. Also, there were no signs of ATV activity.
 - 3. Amy will talk with Sue Morse to set a date for the field trip. We prefer weekends and if that doesn't work Thursdays would be an alternative day.
- D. Natural Resources flyer
 - 1. Jen said that Ripton's flyer had lots of hyperlinks which she thought would be problematic for our flyer.
- F. Animal sighting database
 - 1. No updates on the data base.
- G. Additional members
 - 1. Amy will contact Betsey Etchells about adding an item on the Town's website that we are looking for a new member, and if interested to contact the Town Clerk or any member of the FCC, and they would have to be a Ferrisburgh resident.

H. Zoning rewrite update

1. Karen will attend the next meeting of the Land Use Regulation Update Committee on Nov. 27th at 5:30.
2. Brandy Saxton, Planner, will, also, be attending.

I. New business

1. Lewis Creek Association - Their annual meeting will be on Nov. 18th at the Ferrisburgh Town Town Hall. The main topic will be 'Can Lewis Creek be brought back as a trout stream'.
2. Association of VT Conservation Commissions – Dennis will send in next year's application.
3. Addison County Riverwatch asked for addition contributions.
4. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) – Craig said the State has a few people who can assist Towns with understanding the coming invasion. Ferrisburgh is not a hot spot. The infestation peaks in 8-10 years after the borer first appears. There are 3 options for handling Town trees; 1-Cut down all the public ash trees, 2-monitor the infestation carefully within 10 to 15 miles of the Town's border, and include tree removal in the town's budget, and 3 – Do nothing until its too late, which will be expensive. We may organize an informational presentation in late Spring on this subject.
5. Winter ecology talk – maybe a speaker from UVM or Middlebury or Alicia Daniel from the field naturalist program.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next scheduled meeting is December 11th, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Pettersen, Secretary

