

## **WEATHERSFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

**April 22, 2021**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Heather Shand, Jeff Pelton, Roy Burton, Ellen Clattenburg, Cheryl Cox, Tyler Harwell and Ryan Gumbart

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM and adjourned at 8:30 PM

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MARCH 2021 MEETING:**

Roy made a motion to accept the minutes without amendment.

Tyler – 2<sup>nd</sup>

No discussion

Vote – Unanimous

### **TOWN FOREST DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#### *-Weathersfield/ATA Cooperative Agreement:*

The Selectboard has approved and signed the Cooperative Agreement to allow the ATA to perform trail work on the Weathersfield Town Forest. The Trails Subcommittee will meet to discuss moving forward with trail building and maintenance projects including the first phase of the mountain bike trails and the mowing of the powerline trail.

#### *-Provide the Selectboard and the Town Manager with more information:*

Discussion during the Selectboard meeting resulted in questions regarding the Town Forest. Dave Fuller mentioned in passing that proceeds from timber harvesting are to be given to the Edgar May Fitness Center. This and other questions about what activities are allowed in the Town Forest have indicated that more information provided in a clear and consolidated manner is necessary for the Conservation Commission, the Selectboard and the Town Manager to gain a better understanding of the rules surrounding the Town Forest. The Trails Subcommittee will prepare a packet containing relevant information. Ellen agreed to look into rules regarding timber proceeds.

### **AVCC TINY GRANTS:**

Heather proposed holding a workshop for the public to learn about bats and build their own bat boxes. Due to the timing of the grant deadline this may be applied for in 2022. The commission may hold a trial workshop with a small number of boxes to get an idea about the cost and process.

### **WCC SPONSORED WORKSHOP/HIKE IDEAS:**

#### *-Spring: beaver deceiver/Tyler Brown (Ryan):*

The commission decided to provide Tyler with dates for him to choose from based on his schedule. It was decided that either May 15, 16, 22 or 23 would be best. It should be held at 10:30 AM if held on a Saturday or 2:00 PM if held on a Sunday.

*-Salamander watch (Ryan):*

Ryan saw a message on Front Porch Forum from a Windsor resident expressing interest in assisting amphibians across the road in highly traveled areas. Ryan proposed setting up this type of event next spring. It was agreed that it should be discussed next winter in planning for the following spring.

**FUTURE MEETING OPTIONS:**

The commission expressed interest in holding in person meetings in addition to the online option. All present members were in favor of providing this option either outdoors at the Center Meeting House or indoors at the Proctor Library. Heather will look into setting up an in-person meeting space.

**OTHER/NEW BUSINESS:**

Jeff wanted to bring to the commission's attention to some of the spring events that either have taken or will take place this year so that we may better plan for them next spring. He mentioned Arbor Day, Earth Day, EAB Awareness Week, UVCC meeting and VT Municipal Day.

**Next WCC Meeting:** May 27, 2021, at 7:00 PM, Location TBD

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Gumbart