

Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of June 6, 2011

Meeting convened at 7:00 PM

Members Present:

Mel Dickenson, Nancy Lightbody, Eileen Beasley, Colin Jones, Lori Johnson, & Jerry Goodall

Members Absent:

Frank Ruch

Minutes: The minutes of the May 9, 2011 meeting were approved without changes.

Action Items: Nancy reported on the half-life of the two herbicides that we are using on the BEST project at the Bucknam Rd. Fire Station: "Roundup" and "Ortho Max".

Presentation/Discussion:

Environmental legislation. Mel reported that no changes were made to the Vernal Pool and Habitat rules. There is a group that would like to reduce the Vernal Pool set back requirements from 250 ft. to 150 ft. The current set back regulation allows for discussion to make adjustments to protect wildlife trails or public access. Gary Fogg has an e-mail on this.

Falmouth Middle School Presentation: Mel will be there the next day, June 7. The 6th Grade students will share what they learned about protecting the Casco Bay Watershed. Mel sees this as a good opportunity to generate interest in our yardscaping initiative.

Subcommittee Reports:

Open Space: The committee has received a grant for doing work on the trails.

Stormwater: The Presumpscott Watershed Preservation Area will hold a meeting on June 27th. Eileen attended a workshop sponsored by the City of South Portland introducing their pilot project to get residents to use alternative lawn care. The educational sessions encouraged residents not to use chemicals and were given signs to put on their lawn saying they were using green lawn care.

The Cumberland Gravel Pit ground water plume will be tested by the State this summer.

Invasive Species: The plots at the Bucknam Rd. are again ribboned off, and the descriptive signs are up.

Planning Board: Colin met with Ethan Croce to discuss FCC involvement with development proposals to the Planning Board. The Planning Board will e-mail us the proposals that need FCC review. We will have 4 to 5 days to study the proposal and then provide comments.

Other Business:

Mel reminded us of the Town Appreciation Banquet at the Woodlands.

The next meeting will be Sept. 12, 2011 (the second Monday).

Meeting adjourned around 8:15 PM

Submitted by Jerry Goodall