

MINUTES OF THE FALMOUTH CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, Sept. 17, 2012

Present: Sarah Boudreau, Colin Jones, Jerry Goodall, Nancy Lightbody, Steve DeCrosta, Mel Dickenson, and Susan Gilpin.

Meeting Minutes for 2012-2013. Susan will take today's minutes, Sarah October, Colin November, Jerry December, Nancy January 2013, Steve February, Mel March, Susan April, Sarah May, and Colin June 2013. The next meeting is Monday, October 1, at 7 p.m.

Stormwater Management The town of Falmouth received a \$50,000 study grant, which it awarded to Woodard and Curran, to map the impervious surfaces which run from Webe Creek into Mill Creek into Mussel Cove, basically from Dunkin Donuts to Bucknam Rd. along both sides of Route One including Walmart. The goal is to reduce the direct discharge of untreated water into Casco Bay. The stakeholders met in the summer for a presentation by Woodard and Curran. Attendance was good and the report was well received. Nancy and Mel were there. Results will be shared October 10. Mel is attending the interlocal stormwater working group (ISWG) this week to report on progress in Falmouth.

Open Space The town of Falmouth has acquired the Hundred Acre Woods, using money from the Mabel Wilson mitigation funds. Hundred Acre Woods will connect two existing open spaces in the NW corner of Falmouth along Blackstrap and Babbidge Roads. Acquisition of the peat bog off Mast Rd., including Suckfish Brook, has been finalized. The Bioblitz at River Point on June 29,30 went well. The Biodiversity Research Institute is collating the results. Mel and Bob have the results and will look for a way to make them available to the public. Results are not on the BRI website yet.

Invasive Species Control The team of Nancy, Sarah, and Jerry meets monthly. They have been working on public education. Bob Shafto did 2 presentations in June along with the library garden tour. Brochures have been placed in Ace Hardware, Allen Sterling and Lothrop, and Skillins. Bob and Caleb Hemphill and Ted Asherman, Nancy and Sarah participated in a demonstration at the Memorial Library on September 15. They cut and hauled the thicket between the library and the adjacent house. The 3-year study at the Fire Barn is complete, Nancy wants to do a poster or article on the results. An information ad ran in the Forecaster four times, including August 30, twice against bittersweet and twice against purple loosestrife. Another ad will run in October.

The team wants to hold another training event in November for landscapers. Bill Kinney at Allen Sterling will host an informational presentation by Bob with an endcap, date TBA. Gnome Landscaping will include invasives in their next open house. Chad at Skillins is also interested. Sarah and Nancy and Jerry want to go to a day-long event at U-Conn on the economic impact of invasives; Mel said the Conservation Committee could find money for gas, mileage, and fees.

Planning Board meets October 2. Colin is our liaison there. The Ocean View proposal will be on the agenda. Mel says the stormwater management and buffer plans look adequate; the Conservation Commission expects to have no comment at the planning board.

Plans for 2012-2013 Susan is to talk with Bob about getting a kiosk for the Tidewater nature trail. The Falmouth Conservation Commission has built 35 miles of trails by now. Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.