

MINUTES OF THE FALMOUTH CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
February 3, 2014

Present were the new co-chairs, Nancy Lightbody and Jerry Goodall, Susan Gilpin, and Steve DeCrosta. Aaron was stuck in traffic. December's minutes were amended to include the text of the resolution we passed on Clapboard, and approved.

LMAC – Susan will ask if LMAC has a place for a permanent member from the Conservation Committee. Nancy will ask Aaron if he is interested in serving. Steve would be willing to serve on the AdHoc zoning committee.

Stormwater – Steve cannot attend the Interlocal Stormwater Working Group because they meet on weekday mornings. The town staff and the state EPA attend. Nancy will ask if Mel wants to attend on our behalf. Nancy will ask Jay Reynolds if the minutes could be sent to her.

Invasive Species – has met several times. In 2 weeks, they are meeting with several garden centers to talk about the best ways to inform customers. They are continuing their educational emphasis from 2013. They are going to put an ad in the Forecaster, and maybe meet people at the landfill, and reach out to 8th graders. Question: What is the best way to manage invasives on public lands?

Planning Board – Steve was unable to make the visit to Upper and Lower River Ridge Falls last Friday. He will try to record the Planning meeting Tuesday and view it later. Site plan amendments to Ocean View are on the agenda. Various site plan amendments were considered at the last meeting. Steve would like to be introduced to the planning board and be included in communications; Nancy and Jerry will meet next week with Theo about this, and Melissa will send agendas to Nancy, Jerry, and Steve.

The job of the conservation committee in reviewing site plans is to look for the following:

Proximity to open space

Trails across property

Stormwater management

Habitat pathways along significant streams

Culverts, the size and type, they should have natural bottoms for wildlife passage.

Other business: AdHoc Route 100 Committee – Jerry is familiar with the area and volunteered to serve. There are many natural features there, and lots of recreational use. Membership --- The Conservation Committee needs one new member. Natural Gas – Susan will ask Bob Shafto and Caleb Hemphill if the pipelines will affect trails, for better or for worse. Monarchs -- Susan will research monarchs and milkweed culture.

Next meetings – March 3 (Nancy Secretary), April 7 (Jerry Secretary), May 5, June 2, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, November 3, December 1.

Submitted by Susan Gilpin