

Otisfield Conservation Committee
May 27, 2015

Members present: Pixie Williams, Bob Blake, Lee Dassler and Kristin Roy
Members absent: Susan Feller

Motion to start: 7:07pm

1. Minutes: There are not minutes from the April meeting, there was no quorum.
2. Coon Swamp:
 - a. Pixie spoke of the need to monitor the swamp. She found out that the average life expectancy of a beaver habitat is about 50 years. Questions were raised as to whether the swamp is at the end of a 50 year cycle. Lloyd Grover told Pixie he saw a juvenile beaver this April.
 - b. The water level is down.
 - c. Bob spoke about which lodge was being used in the winter of 2013. The lodge at the head of the swamp had a large vent hole. Both he and Jeff believed there may have been two beaver in the lodge that winter. This year the vent hole was small making us wonder if ether there is only a juvenile beaver in the swamp or if a muskrat was using the lodge this winter.
 - d. Bob and Kristin will go out and look at the lodges for activity and look at the tree growth around the swamp.
3. Wireless Telecommunication Facility Ordinance:
 - a. Kristin spoke about the statues of the ordinance. There are no provisions to safeguard the community or wildlife from excessive RF emissions from facilities in the proposed ordinance.
 - b. There are also no provisions for protecting endangered flora and fauna in the proposed ordinance as well.
4. Twin Bridge Forest:
 - a. Lee spoke about the status of the grant money from the state. The project will go forward, there will have to be a harvest. How large the harvest will be is dependent on when the governor decides to release the moneys he is holding hostage.
 - b. Lee would like to ask the Select Board for permission for the OCC to work with the land trust to develop and help make trails on the property. Trails need to be marked before the harvest in order to protect the visual aesthetics of the trails.
5. Bob took a lake monitoring class. He has not chosen a lake to monitor yet.
6. Meeting adjured 9:04pm