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## **RCC Minutes**

**6/9/2014**

Meeting called to order at Rockingham Town Hall – 7:00 pm

Attending: Guy Payne, Rick Holloway, Alan Fowler, Mike Ghia - Chair, Peter Bergstrom, Gary Fox

Absent: Tom Hernon, Paul Wilson, Fred Bennet

### **Approval of Minutes:**

April Minutes: Alan moved approval and Guy seconded. Unanimous

May Minutes: Guy moved approval and Alan seconded. Unanimous

### **Logistics:**

Vtel/Gmail is presenting problems with bulk email. Need for mail chimp use for RCC

Gary will check with Kerry Bennet about the progress on the new Town Website

### **Herrick's Cove**

From Alma Beals: Two of the LineKeepers are in (fishing line receptacles)- Hoyt's Landing in Springfield and at the boat launch at Herricks Cove. Alan had planned a video showing installation and then a story but the installation was done before we were told. We do need to do the publicity. Kelly Stettner did a Garlic Mustard pull at Springweather in Springfield. Other than that invasive removal is quiet.

Audubon volunteers planted 14 flowering crabs at Springweather that had been too small to plant so were in Alma' garden but they were pretty big to move so they may not all live. These were originally planned for TransCanada but Matt wants to wait with removal and plantings until after the FERC relicensing.

### **Natural Resources:**

**Stream Naming Project:** Peter presented some maps and reviewed his findings.

We discussed Petty Brook, Skunk Hollow Brook, Sterns (Stream Brook on map is a typo) Brook; and a

Brook along Parker Hill Rd. and Brooks into Roundy's cove, and other brooks on the maps

Peter will reach out to the Smallheer's who grew up along on Parker Hill and also ask Susan about press.

Peter is also working on Waterfall names – Jeff Nugent and Marie Caduto are skeptical of the names found on the websites – Gageville and Upper Twins Falls; Bart who grew up there said they didn't have a name – talk to Mark Lund (Town Rd Commissioner in Westminster)

Discussed whether to include Swimming Holes specifically in the project without firm conclusion.

No response yet from Stephen on Westminster Conservation Commission's participation; Eric Stevens in Grafton is interested; Kelly from Springfield – not interested

### **Emerald Ash Borer**

Andrew Morrison is working with Alma on the emerald ash borer grant, specifically on working on an action plan for the Town when an infestation of Ash Borer arrives. Jim Esden led a walk at VA identifying ash trees. More volunteers are still needed for the ash tree survey.

### **Water quality monitoring**

Begins June 18 and ends August (every 2 weeks) so only 4 or 5 testing times;

Williams River: Fred took over Golden Hill Road; There will be no sampling at Herrick's Cove this year; Susan Brace will continue to sample at the Lower Bartonsville covered bridge.

Saxtons River is 4 people – 1 person per site (above and below wastewater treatment plant) and the Swimming Hole along Stickney's Field – Albert Bupp, Peter, Margo Ghia, and Jen Silver are the primary people pulling samples

### **Public hiking trip or other activity**

Gary spoke with Tim Morton. Tim told him that there are interesting things to see in Durand State Forest anytime of the year and he would be willing to lead a hike just about any time. Discussion ensued about the possibility of Fall. If its going to happen, the planning needs to happen ASAP so that we can coordinate with Library and Nature Museum and Ascutney Audubon. Someone will have to step up soon to take charge. No one stepped up at this meeting.

### **Energy Committee:**

The Energy Committee has 4 goals for this coming year:

1. Review the audits of the municipal buildings and make recommendations
2. Research and promote municipal solar opportunities
3. Research and promote biomass opportunities for schools and municipal buildings
4. Research and promote the lowering of transportation costs from an energy savings perspective

Streetlights: Mike is still looking at the accuracy of the street light inventory and billing.

RCC will next Meet on July 14 No meeting in August

Adjourned at 8:00 pm