

West Fairlee Conservation Commission

Approved Minutes – Meeting of July 22, 2014

Attending: Fred Cook, Geoff Gardner, Ann Stephens, Peggy Willey and Guest: Coeey Kearns.

There was no quorum and the commission took no action.

The meeting began at 7:10 PM.

1. **Minutes** – Minutes of the Commission's June 24th meeting were distributed and read.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** A check for \$306.00 for the Brushwood Community Forest Fund was received from the Aloha Foundation. Geoff will write thanking them for the gift.
As of June 30 the Conservation Commission Fund had a total of \$6,489.72 reflecting revenues of \$24.61 plus \$1.95 for interest and debits of \$229.08, including dues of \$50.00 to the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions and \$20 to the Vermont Tree Farm as well as a payment of \$158.75 to the Thetford Conservation Commission for a shared educational program.
As of June 30 The Brushwood Community Forest Fund had a total of \$72,310.09, reflecting interest of \$18.32.
3. **Town Wide Composting:** Coeey and Geoff reported on the late June meeting of a citizens committee seeking to get town wide composting moving some time in September. The committee is gathering educational materials, seeking information about a carrier willing to do pickups at a central location, recruiting youth volunteers and researching prices for household compost buckets.
4. **Conservation Commission Logo:** there was a brief discussion about creating and using a Conservation Commission logo.
5. **Friends of Fairlee Forest Map:** the Friends of Fairlee map of the Fairlee Town Forest and its trails will be available for \$1.00 very soon.
6. **Conservation Projects:** A) Fund raising – The three family barn sale on Wild Hill raised about \$650.00 for the Commission's fund. B) Conservation Easements – we should know early in August whether the two easement projects along the Ompompanoosuc have been funded. If the grant to fund these projects comes through the Commission will need to form a subcommittee to raise about \$8,500.00.
7. **Best Land Use Practices Brochure:** Coeey proposed that the Commission might prepare a brochure about best land use practices for all new property owners and anyone else interested. The brochure would touch on topics such as invasive, plants, riparian buffers, forest management, agricultural practices such as pesticides, composting and mulching, back yard burning, light pollution, road salt and septic systems. Coeey will work on a draft.
8. **Brushwood Right of Way Issue:** Peggy and Geoff reported on their meeting with Attorney Paul Gillies about a strategy for resolving the right of way issue for the French parcel in Brushwood south. The Commission will need to vote to approve this strategy and go forward with Paul Gillies. Lacking a quorum at this meeting, a special meeting will need to be schedule to accomplish this.
9. **Possible Middlebrook Road Drainage Project:** discussion of Joan Allen of CRWC possibly pursuing a culvert and drainage project along Middlebrook Road and perhaps seeking a federal grant to assist with this.
10. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 9 PM