

## **West Fairlee Conservation Commission**

### **Draft Minutes –Meeting of November 18, 2014**

**Attending:** Geoffrey Gardner, Ann Stephens, Jim Totin, Peggy Willey, Guy Wilson Rebecca Wurdak.

The meeting began at 7:05 PM.

**1. Minutes:** It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting of October 28.

**2. Treasurer's Report:** As of the end of October, the Conservation Commission Fund showed a total of \$8,080.00, reflecting additions from the Cap Fund, cash receipts and interest. Because of a computer glitch October figures for the Brushwood Community Forest Fund were not available. However, at the end of September this fund showed a total of \$72,765.54, reflecting additions from the Limlaw deposit, stumpage payments and other cash receipts as well as interest.

**3. Brushwood Community Forest:** **A)** Ann has placed two No ATVs signs on the French parcel: at the gate and at the northwest corner. Guy has met with VASA's new statewide trails coordinator. He will be making an effort to establish uniform trail maintenance and mapping. He will also be the person actually responsible for trail maintenance in Brushwood North. Wording on our more elaborate No ATV signs was revised to reflect this and will include his phone number. **B)** STZ language was presented to the group as was Guy's revised map. These materials will be sent on to the County Forester for comment. **C)** Dave Slayton has begun cutting trees in Brushwood North and will continue till snow. He'll pick up again in the Spring. **D)** Kate Sudhoff of Forests Parks and Recreation toured and monitored Brushwood South and wrote the Commission a favorable note. She also asked for additional information which we supplied. She noted that some trees need to be cleared from trails. We will ask David Paganelli whether a Town resident who does this gratis would need to be insured. **E)** Will find all emails and notes from past minutes on the topic of tree poaching in Brushwood North and pass what they find on to Guy as an archive of dated evidence.

**4. Water:** **A)** Peggy reported that the state river people will conduct an E. coli presentation in West Fairlee on February 15. It will deal with general issues and principles and focus on the roles of agricultural runoff and septic system problems. We will include Vershire and Thetford in this program since they share our stretch of the Ompompanusuc with us. We will make a strong effort to get as many people out for this as possible. **B)** Peggy reported on efforts to begin discussion with the Geers about possible removal of their dam on the Ompompanoosuc. She shared a letter to them for revision.

**5. Conservation Commission Website:** An acquaintance of Peggy's has expressed interest in setting up a Conservation Commission website. Geoff reported on Delsie's idea of having a Town of West Fairlee webmaster and the possibility that each of the Town's Boards and Commissions could have a page of its own. Peggy will inquire further and see if the person in question would be interested in this larger task.

**6. Meetings:** Because of the holidays in December, we have rescheduled the December for the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 9:10.