

## Bethel Conservation Commission Minutes – 8/12/14

**Present** Mary Floyd, Moe Brigham, Emily Miller, Tom Warhol, Dave Stanley, Jennifer Schomp, Mary Russ (White River Partnership) and Dennis Wood

**Action on Minutes** minutes from 7/20/14 were approved.

### Business

- August 7th Public Forum Recap with Mary Russ, Executive Director of the White River Partnership (WRP).
  - Feedback about what should go on at the sites was consistent.
  - Lang Durfee was unable to attend the forum, but his comments will be included in feedback.
  - In general, there is interest in possible re-vegetation projects on Spring Hollow and Gilead Brook and Marsh Meadows. There is also interest in pursuing a project to address the erosion problem on north end of the Marsh Meadows property. There is not interest in pursuing any projects at the Miller Dr. property.
  - WRP and town will submit a RFP to local landscape architects for conceptual plans for the sites at Spring Hollow, Gilead Brook and Marsh Meadow. This will provide the town with estimates needed to apply for funding to plan the projects (deadline is the end of August).
  - Jennifer gave a summary of the feedback gathered via forms at the meeting (more general, not specific to the buyout properties).
  - A summary of where things stand should be presented to the Selectboard (Mary Russ will do this). Mary Floyd will reach out to the Planning Commission to let them know that a summary will be presented to the Selectboard.
  - The CC will have info about the buyouts (parcel maps, place for comments, etc.) at Forward Fest.
- Dennis Wood's logging project through Rec. Center property
  - Dennis walked us through the proposed project to put in a road through a portion of the Rec. Center property ( in the woods behind the pool area).
  - Road would go in this fall; logging done late fall through winter. Requesting use of the road for 2 years.
  - Dennis has already spoken with the Selectboard, and all landowners. The CC has no concerns or objections to the project.
- Town Forest Project (Branliere Town Forest)
  - Robert Gaiko, and adjacent landowners Greg Winnie, Bob Noble are all interested in pursuing the project.
  - CC will invite them to a meeting this fall.
- Communications
  - Jake Brown, volunteer chair of VT Conservation Commission, spoke with Moe and Mary about their Annual Meeting, Saturday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. He inquired as to whether the BCC had any particular topics that we'd like to see covered.

- Emily met with members of the Randolph and Braintree CCs about beginning to plan for the arrival of Emerald Ash Borer and how towns might pool resources in some way.
- Forward Festival CC informational display
  - Mary will get in touch with Parks and Public Spaces.
  - Emily will create a summary of the topics we've covered/list of what we've been up to.
  - Jennifer will do survey.
  - Tom will bring emerald ash borer/forest pest material, and gather sign-up info from folks who might be interested in helping with a Forest Pest Plan in some way.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

**Next meeting will be 9th, at 6:30pm**