

KINGSTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Minutes: Oct. 6, 2016

Kingston Community Library

Call to order - 7pm

Members present: Evelyn Nathan, Andrea Kenter, Jeff Sluder, Ken Twombly, Bob Smith

Guests: Walt Roy, Fred Borman

Treasurer's Report:

Receipts for supplies given to Jeff by Evy and Walt. Evy thinks under-budget lines will be utilized by the end of the year.

Sept. Minutes: accepted as written

Thank you to Bob Smith for acting as secretary in Marghi's absence.

Guest Speaker:

Fred Borman:

Mr. Borman is the Rockingham County Forester. He brought along several fact sheets about gypsy moths and gave us a history of this pest, and of its life cycle. He also told us a little about the infestation of the 1980's in NH. The incipient NH infestation, noticed at Valley lane by Evy toward the end of the summer, is the result of two very dry years. The fungus that is able to control gypsy moths can only come into play during a very wet spring.

Methods of control were discussed. Mr. Borman maintains that even if we attempt to remove visible egg masses, there will be millions of egg masses we cannot see or reach, that manual management is therefore impractical. Management of the caterpillars on individual trees IS possible, and as spring approaches, the CC will inform the selectmen and the town about various control methods to protect special trees, historic and important trees, such as the Bartlett linden tree, and the trees on the plains.

Action item: Check Frye Town Forest for GM infestation before giving the go-ahead for a planned winter harvest.

Photo by Evy Nathan of two female GM's and one male, with several egg masses.



Communications:

SELT newsletters handed out.

Letter from Ron Klemarczyk of FORECO read, it was suggested that Ron come to speak with us at an upcoming meeting, as there are questions and concerns about Frye access.

NHACC annual meeting will be on 11/12/16. Evy and Marghi will attend

Saving Special Places date will be 4/18/17

Evy will attend NH Methods Wetland Evaluation training 10/7/16 in Allenstown, NH

Updates, Signs and Trails Report:

There will be trail improvements made at Valley Lane, hopefully this month.

The blue trail at Frye is also closing in. A project for next year.

Valley Lane kiosk is updated, the new map is complete. The wildlife poster is also up at the kiosk.

Many thanks to Walt Roy for taking the map and poster and adapting/making frames, and reinstalling them. Thanks also to Jeff Sluder for staining the board at the kiosk!

Bluebird boxes have been installed at the Fairgrounds and at Busch Conservation area (Newton) thanks to Robert DesRochers of Maine Audubon, who made and donated the boxes to us, and Charles River Labs volunteers for installing them. Bluebirds are already living in all the boxes!

Sr. Day of Caring, SRHS students will be working at Sargent Conservation Area cleaning two old dumps. Another group will be installing rubbing posts at Tucker/French and the library woods.

The idea of having oval "Hike Kingston" stickers printed was voted down for now.

Annual Valley Lane site walk with Ernie Landry for SELT will be on 10/18 at 9:00 AM.

Jeff, Marghi and Evy did the LCHIP site walks with Steve Walker from the state, focusing on Russman and Manuel. Steve sent LCHIP reports for all properties. A motion was made, seconded, and carried, to accept Steve Walkers LCHIP reports as written for 2016. Next year we will need to return to a more thorough format for all properties.

Action Item: Evy to compose letter to abutter at Manuel re: encroachments.

Action Item: It was decided that if we can only survey one LCHIP property, it should be Manuel. Jeff will contact the original surveyor if he can contact him.

Action Item: Evy to check on parking and easement at ET's Landing

Trail passport system booklet is complete. Families will be able to download a PDF from our website.

Bucket List:

Rye gate

Dorre/ Frye timber cuts

Survey LCHIP where needed

Handicapped trail

Next meeting: **Take note of date change*

November 10th