



**Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of January 4, 2017**

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Steve DeCrosta, Sarah Boudreau, Susan Gilpin, Jerry Goodall, Nancy Lightbody, and new member Karen Jacobsen

Also present: Lee Skillin

FCC planning and job responsibilities for 2017:

- Members: New member Karen Jacobsen was enthusiastically welcomed. There is still available space for one more committee member.
- Takers of Minutes for 2017: February: Karen; March: Sarah; April: Nancy; May: Steve
- FCC Annual Report for 2016 is in the works.

Pesticide Restriction Ordinance

We discussed our process for a while. (The State of Maine has a website of all town "municipal pesticide ordinances," so we discussed some of those for a little bit.) We will lay out the goals in bullet form. Application of the ordinance will include a pesticide management committee, with broad representation to review requests for variances from the law. At this point we are at the fact-finding stage.

We decided to hold a public forum in February for businesses that apply pesticides to share their views. The tentative date is Wednesday, February 8, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the council chambers if they are available. Snow date is February 15. Karen will draw up invitations to all the businesses we can think of; the invitations will include seven questions that we discussed. We will also ask the Board of Pesticide Control for the names of licensed pesticide applicators in Falmouth and the Ornamental Horticulture Association for the names of landscaping companies active in Falmouth. Committee members will hand-deliver the invitations to the businesses. The title of the event will be "Fact-Finding on Fertilizers and Pesticides in Falmouth." Participants will each have 5 minutes to speak; they are encouraged to present written testimony as well. Town residents will be asked to speak first, then businesses that work in town.

The following questions will be sent out and also displayed on the screen in the council room:

- Which synthetic pesticides and fertilizers does your business sell or apply?
- What volume of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers does your business sell or use in a year?
- How do you assess the need for synthetic pesticides and fertilizers?
- How often do you apply synthetic pesticides and fertilizers?
- Does your business apply synthetic pesticides and fertilizers within 250 feet of water?
- What are your financial and business concerns about limiting the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers in Falmouth?



- How can your business help reduce the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers in Falmouth?

Other public forums will be held: for town staff in March, and for town residents, including lobstermen and beekeepers, in April.

Review of Minutes

Minutes of the November 28, 2016, meeting were unanimously approved.

Subcommittee Reports will be given at the next meeting in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Next meeting is February 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Susan Gilpin.