



Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of April 3, 2017

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Sarah Boudreau, Steve DeCrosta, Susan Gilpin, Jerry Goodall, Karen Jacobsen, Nancy Lightbody, Sue Shane

Also present: Ned Kitchel (Town Council liaison to the Falmouth Conservation Commission)

Review of Minutes

Minutes of the March 6, 2017, meeting were unanimously approved.

TickSmart program

There was a conference call with Thomas Mather from the University of Rhode Island's TickSmart program. It seemed as though educating Falmouth residents about various ways to protect themselves from ticks would be an appropriate task for the Conservation Commission, but it was decided to wait until after the Town-Council-requested pesticide restriction ordinance was in place. Ned thought that the Town Council might be interested in spending some money on education. Susan suggested that perhaps a model "tick smart" lawn with explanatory signs could be planted by the new library. (Nancy will check with the Library.) There is a great deal of information about controlling ticks on the web, so Sue volunteered to do some more research and report.

Pesticide Restriction Ordinance

There was a debriefing from the March 15 meeting attended by two representatives from the department of Parks and Community Programs as well as a report of feedback from a meeting with two staff members of the Cumberland Country Soil and Water Conservation District.

In addition, there was a discussion of appropriate questions and several additional ways to get the word out about the upcoming (and final) fact-finding session for Falmouth residents on April 12.

Subcommittee Reports

- **LMAC** (Karen)
The next meeting will be April 11, so no report at this time.
- **Planning Board** (Nancy/Steve)
Nothing pertinent to the FCC at this time.
- **Wetlands/Vernal Pools** (Nancy)
The FCC will lead a workshop for the Town Council in early summer.



- **Water Quality/Erosion** (Susan/Steve/Sue)
Susan mentioned that sea level rise could have a big impact on Town Landing and Mill Creek. Also, the pesticide restriction ordinance is part of the work of this subcommittee. The three members offered to take a first stab at writing a draft ordinance.
- **Invasive Species** (Sarah, Jerry, Nancy)
These three plus Ted Asherman from the Falmouth Conservation Corps gave the keynote speech at the recent annual meeting of the Maine Invasive Species Network. They also learned a great deal from other meeting attendees. Sarah warned that while not a terrestrial invasive, the browntail moth is unfortunately making a comeback; when the caterpillars are eating oak and apple tree leaves, they shed thousands of hairs, which can cause itchy rashes and breathing problems. Ned spoke about the success that he had in treating browntail moths on his property using a ground spray a number of years ago. Also, the three anti-invasive zoning ordinances were approved by the Town Council and the Planning Board and have now been published.
- **Ad Hoc Zoning Committee** (Steve)
No report
- **Ad Hoc Route 1 North Committee** ()
The committee has continued to have discussions about traffic lane configurations, bicycles, pedestrians, etc. They have talked with major property owners along Route 1 and are planning another public forum.
- **LPAC: Greening of Falmouth 2.0** (Sarah)
Sarah reported that a new survey is being developed and that all members of the FCC should participate when they are notified about it! Coming soon will be a joint meeting with the Ad Hoc Route 100 Committee.

Other Business/Other Ideas:

- **Native Species Mini-Park at the Town Green** (Susan/Jerry)
No big update at this time, although Lucky (from Parks & Community Programs) continues to work with OceanView on planning the mini-park.
- **Karen** volunteered to take the June minutes, and in May **Bob Shafto** will give all the FCC members a tour of Falmouth's parks and open spaces.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Nancy Lightbody.