

**Otisfield Conservation Committee Minutes**  
**January 28, 2015**

1. Call to order: 7:08
2. Members present - Susan Feller, Lee Dassler and Kristin Roy,
  1. Members absent - Bob Blake, and Pixie Williams
3. Minutes from November 19, 2014, Motion to accept minutes as amended, seconded and accepted.
4. Old business
  1. No Trapping sign on beaver dam; Pixie had a sign made and it was hung at the dam.
  2. Jean Hankins' history presentation is anticipated to happen in October of 2015.
  3. Otisfield trash- recycling or single stream; Tabled until February.
  4. Two Pond Nature Area (TPNA) -
    1. What work remains to be completed? - Discussion tabled until February.
    2. Check on vernal pool by parking area come spring; This will be discussed more in the upcoming months.
    3. Create a bird/plant list for kiosk at TPNA;
      1. Pixie - will ask a fellow birder for a list of sighted birds she compiled.
      2. Lee - will ask USFish and Wildlife for a list of anticipated birds for the area. She will also contact Maine Natural Areas Program for an animal habitat list for town.
      3. Susan, Pixie and Kristin will walk area in spring and start to identify plants.
  5. Plan for educational event with Dr. Buckley regarding water levels of lakes/ponds - Tabled until February.
5. New business
  1. Camp Arcadia celebrates their Centennial this year - OCC and Otisfield should commend their land stewardship; Susan will speak with the Select Board and the Historical Society about some kind of recognition of the event.
  2. Great Blue Heron (GBHeron) rookeries disappearing - The resurgence of the Bald Eagle may be contributing to the loss of the rookeries, forcing the GBHeron into "hiding". When observing GBHerons one should pay attention to where they bring their food in order to ascertain where they are nesting.
  3. Red Polls/Snowy Owls have been sighted keep an eye on your bird feeders!
  4. Western Foothills Land Trust (WFLT) - Lee
    1. Lee would like to plan a bird walk in May at Twin Bridges property.
    2. Crooked River Forest Project report;

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1. WFLT has not closed on the property there is a question concerning the deeded right of way access to the properties. WFLT has a perches and sale extension to March 31, 2015.
  2. WFLT has the funding they need to close and a large tree harvest is not necessary to fund the project. There will be a timber stand improvement harvest.
  3. There are culverts that will need to be addressed in the future, as well as the discovery of an old dam that may need to be addressed in order to allow fish to travel up and down a feeder brook to the river.
  3. There is another potential CLT lot the WFLT would like to purchase adjacent to Jugtown in Otisfield. The lot is about 252 acres along the Crooked River with 65 acres of wetlands. WFLT is looking into grant opportunities for the project.
  4. Wood Turtle project; Tabled
6. Motion to adjure and seconded at 8:10pm