



Town of Otisfield

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Otisfield Conservation Committee Minutes 2/1/18

Members present: Marc Coriveau, Lee Dassler, Maureen Mooney-Howard and Kristin Roy

Meeting called to order at 7:02

Motion made to accept November 28, 2017 minutes; minutes approved.

Old Business:

ecomaine:

- Single sort recycling information meeting, sponsored by our Committee, was held at the Community Hall on December 13, 2017. About 30 attended to hear the presentation by Lissa Bittermann. It was a very cold night. Lissa said that she would be willing to do another presentation in the summer to reach our summer residents. We talked about the need to also educate the staff and campers at the summer camps in Otisfield.

Town of Otisfield's new website:

- We feel that the new website is more difficult to navigate than the old one. Maureen has been working with Tanya Taft to make sure that all of our Committee's past and present information (agendas and minutes) have been uploaded.
- We decided that we should add recycling information to our Committee's part of the site.

Twin Bridges Trails:

- WFLT, along with our Town Forester, Bill Newcomb, is considering making part of this parcel into a demonstration forest. Trails need to be constructed and Lee would like to enlist the help of our Committee. The parking lot will be a summer only parking lot. Lee will keep us up to date on the progress.

Fogg Lot:

- Western Foothills Land Trust (WFLT) is hoping to buy a small lot south of the Fogg lot and have received a \$4,000 grant for an appraisal.

New Business:

- Otisfield Selectmen have signed a contract with Atlantic Recycling Equipment. LLC for a recycling compactor. The Town will have to hold a special town meeting to get permission to use the money received back from Norway Paris Solid Waste Corp. toward the cost of the compactor.
- Our Committee would also like to involve our Community School students in a school recycling program. Katrina Venhuizen, from *ecomaine* would love to come to our school and do a presentation. Maureen has spoken to Ruth Wilson, 6th grade teacher, about this and Ruth is interested. However, the school does not presently recycle because all separated

recycling material gets thrown in the trash at the end of the day. This is a big problem and our Committee would like to try to work with the school to come up with a solution.

- We also discussed a program that the 6th grade Otisfield and Oxford students have done in the past learning about appropriate and inappropriate conservation activities near our lakes. Maureen wondered if TLEA would be interested in helping to fund this boat trip and will talk to Ruth Wilson about the program's status.
- Maureen asked Lee if she (WFLT) would like to do an evening presentation this summer on the Trust's Otisfield parcels. The same evening, our Committee would show maps and give out brochures of our two trail systems – Two Ponds and Heniger. In addition to our year-round residents, we could expect some summer residents and TLEA members to be interested. Hopefully, this would increase awareness and support for both our Committee and WFLT.

The meeting was adjourned 7:55 p.m. Next meeting is May 22nd, 2018