Morristown Conservation Commission
July 20, 2023

The meeting was held at the Tegu building and was called to order at 6:32.

Attendance: Ron Stancliff, Kristen Connelly, Dave Stevens, Kari Anderson, Jess Zehngut
Absent: Brent Teillon, Jim Pease
Guests: Jerry Throne, Evelyn Throne

Dave motioned to approve the May minutes (the June meeting was delayed until July) and Kari seconded.

Old Business:

1. Tree inventory training: Members of MCC and MACC have met with Joanne Garton of the Urban and Community Forestry Program to familiarize themselves with the protocols for the village tree inventory. We have a state-issued IPad in addition to the apps available for use on cell phones.
2. Trail signs: Dave and Brent know what needs to be replaced and/or added to the Town Forest signs. They will obtain a quote from Great Big Graphics; Dave estimates the price will be in the $1100-$1200 range. There is a new sign in the Bryan Pond Parking lot.
3. Sue Morse: Sue is proposing to present via webinar on the mountain lion. Communication with her can be challenging as she uses phone only, so we propose Brent will continue as liaison.

Other:

1. Beaver activity in the Town Forest near site 7 is resulting in flooding of TH 43. A trapper has caught two, and guesses that there are two at large. Traps are set near the pond.
2. Ron proposed a wetland inventory of the town, noting that our bylaws include natural resources inventories. Discussion ensued regarding whether this is necessary in addition to the maps available through the state (and are they exhaustive), and how we would use the information. Including water sources such as aquifers would be relevant especially in light of the recent flooding.

New Business:

1. Richard and Mariah are stepping down. It will likely be necessary to proactively recruit potential members. We could consider writing a weekly column in the Town Notes section of the News and Citizen to highlight MCC activities.
2. Kari proposed communicating with other area conservation commissions, Cambriidge in particular, regarding the purchase of the Sterling acreage being discussed as the site for a Smugger's Notch/Spruce Peak connector. She will contact Justin March, the chair, to ascertain their position and determine if they can use assistance or support.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Zehngut