

Waterbury Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2014

Present: Heather O'Wrill, Matt Larson, Joan Beard, Allan Thompson, Steve Hagenbuch, Caitrin Maloney

Caitrin Maloney, relatively new director from Stowe Land Trust joined us to discuss ways to collaborate and inform us of SLT's news.

- SLT is preparing to update their Strategic Conservation plan which emphasizes areas to focus conservation initiatives. Agriculture, forestry and wildlife will receive attention. The update will include more data including inventory data, and identify lacking data. The Conservation Plan will include a more user friendly format intended to be accessible by public.
- WCC gave a history of interactions between SLT and WCC including our recent Shutesville hill initiatives and lectures.
- We discussed available resources and examples of conservation planning including natural community inventories, biofinder, and tiered habitat zoning areas with examples from Warren

We reflected with great appreciation on the May 25th Bird event hosted by Steve Hagenbuch.

- Good turnout, good space.
- Summer events are hard to fill. Avoid June-September for events.
- Ideas that participants wanted to learn more about include birds (bird watching club), geology, invasives, and "backyard planning".
- Most participants already were coming before radio or poster.
- Some participants responded to poster, LEAP fair or FPF.
- Joan and Steve will work together to compile list of attendees.
- Matt Larson will set up google docs to share contact lists.

We need to reschedule meetings.

- Try same place with 3rd Tuesdays of every month beginning July 15th

Strategic Planning

- Joan looked at a shared the WCC rules and mission. Within it it includes types of activities and we discussed what activities we are beholden too within the rules.
- We discussed our interests with a strategic planning session
 - Better integrate into municipal process
 - 5 year planning timeline with specific activities to achieve WCC mission
 - Determine which activities within the rules WCC is interested in tackling
 - Identify resources are important to residents
 - Identify Conservation Priorities
 - Create a demand for WCC
 - Increase our partnering with town level planning
- Contact Town to inform them of our planning interests.
- Look for facilitators.

Specific goals of strategic plan.

- Conservation priorities
 - w/ actions to address priorities
- Increase WCC involvement with community and municipal planning
- Hone mission statement.