

Readfield Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023

Present: Bruce Hunter, Greg Durgin, Jerry Bley, Jaaron Shaw, Marty Hanish
Absent: Andy Walsh, Linnea Koons

Review of the July 11, 2023 RCC meeting minutes, voted to accept based on a few edits

New Business

Readfield Conservation Commission early years celebration

Tim Sniffen, Bob Mohlar and David and Edwina Bagley attended the beginning of our meeting to reminisce about the early years of RCC. It was agreed that RCC was started 36 years ago. Tim brought some old photos. We shared a chocolate cake and cider. It was a nice time.

Milt Wright memorial spur trail and bench

\$200.00 will be put in the budget for the bench.

Old Business

Vernal Pools Map

Jerry said that he will write a letter to significant vernal pool landowners informing them that their pools have been mapped and what it will mean to them. Tim will look for a letter to Significant Vernal Pool property owners written as we were preparing to collect data on the pools to use as a template.

Ag Allies Grassland Bird Habitat Signs

Linnea will seek out Shaun Drinkwater at Maranacook to ask him if we can place the Grassland Bird Habitat signs in the south and southwestern fields near the school. We want to delay mowing where the birds nest in May and June.

Fairgrounds Working Group

Locations for the basketball court were pursued with Maranacook Community High School. The most appropriate location (where mobile classrooms had been removed) is going to be used for truck driving education and practice. The lower parking lot above the baseball field was also rejected because of the need for parking at the school. After this effort failed, it was decided to locate the basketball court near the softball and baseball fields at the Fairgrounds. This is a good example of how the Fairgrounds Management Plan works. The Conservation Commission was pleased to see the Management Plan followed and they now support the placement of the basketball court at the Fairgrounds.

Invasive Species Grant

Funding, up to \$700, was approved for the invasive species remediation plan for the Town Forest. We now await a plan from Davis Asherman of the Maine Forest Service.

Pollinator Garden

A small pollinator garden is being planned to accompany a number of single plantings of pollinators to be located near the garden and parking lot in the adjacent grasslands. Bruce will contact Marianne Perry to help plan the garden.

Submitted by Bruce Hunter