

Shapleigh Conservation Commission

October 18, 2021

Attending: Chuck Desmond, Carol Boothby, and David Mann.

Committee Chair, Chuck Desmond, called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

Wildlife Sightings: Turkeys and deer. A bear was shot in Shapleigh. No sign of frost on the horizon.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report for September 13, 2021, was approved as written.

Correspondence:

Newspaper/Publication Items of Interest: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry warned Maine residents to look out for two new invasive species, Stiltgrass and Perennial pepperweed. Stiltgrass first detected in Maine forests in 2020. Leaves are alternate along the stem, 2-4 inches long and pointed at both ends. The plant gets its name from its habit of trailing on the ground and branching from nodes where it produces "stilts" (roots). Pepperweed grows in salt and freshwater marshes, sandy beaches, riverbanks and roadsides. It has alternate leaves along the stem and grows 1-4 feet tall. Both plants spread aggressively.

Treasurer's Report: \$300.00

Town Forest Trail: Fall maintenance of the trail in the Town Forest was a big success. Darren Talbert updated signage on map boxes and Chuck continues to stock the boxes with maps.

Planning Board:

Three Rivers Land Trust: Kite Day at Goat Hill went well although there wasn't much wind.

Old Business: Chuck will follow up with Susan about Climate Change Project and the group committee photo for Joann Holland.

New Business: Chuck spoke about "Project Wild" sponsored by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The goal of Project Wild is to develop awareness, knowledge, skills and commitment to wildlife and the environment in K-12 students. The chair will contact the Maine state coordinator, Laura Craver Rogers, to see if we can entice her to do a program in our part of the state.

The committee also discussed sponsoring roadside cleanup on Earth Day 2022.

The next meeting will be November 8, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by David Mann