

Tree Committee

August 7, 2013, Mason Library

I. Chair Dennis Gibbons called the meeting to order at 5:15. pm. Present were members Dennis Gibbons, Lisa Bozzuto, Jess Wikle, Hilda Shapiro, and Steve Adam; Michael Wise and Susan Sheridan arrived after the meeting got started. Absent: Beth Moser, Maria Ahlin, Laurie Epstein, and tree warden Michael Piretti.

II. Draft minutes from the meeting of July 10, 2013 were approved without objection.

III. New business

A. Phenology

Shawn Garrod, field ecologist from the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, made a presentation about a program that is monitoring phenology, the timing of the events that mark the change of seasons. This "citizen scientist" program is collecting data that will be used to study how shifts in seasonal change relate to changes in global temperature levels. The 2200 mile trail passes through many different ecosystems. Temperature changes are encouraging species to migrate northward. The program includes activities for children.

B. Tree city signs

Gibbons reported that Joe Sokul plans to bring the signs to the Selectboard meeting next Monday. Shapiro will inquire about being sure there is a photographer to record it.

C. National Grid replacement trees

Gibbons reported that there has been no action yet; he reminds Joe Sokul every month.

D. Tree inventory

Gibbons reported that the material is on hand and proposed that the committee make this a priority soon, perhaps by scheduling a session outside of regular meeting time. Adams observed that this project will be important to the work of the tree warden.

E. The next meeting will be September 4, 2013. Gibbons invited proposals for future agenda items

V. The chair adjourned the meeting without objection at 6:17 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Piretti", with a stylized flourish at the end.