

Danville Conservation Commission Notes (DCC)

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

2/1/2021

Attendance: Vange Morse, Dave Houston, Deb Bixby, Barbara Huibregtse, Brian Henderson, Bridget Ferrin-Smith, Wes Everts

1. Talked about our walk down the closed section of the Water Andric. Debbie got in touch with Kellie who had knowledge of the matter as it had come before the selectboard in their deliberations to decide about its future as a class 4 road. They had concluded to have it remain a Class 4 Road but they would close it off for traffic and no longer main it. Determining that it would be a constant battle to fix with the river taking it over. If it becomes a trail it takes some of the liability away from the town. Kellie made a case for taking it off the Class 4 road list and making it a trail. The town was reluctant because there is a landlocked parcel. The only people who came to the meetings were landowners who didn't want to lose their access to the land and had concerns about a trail. In 5 yrs its going to have to come up again because the state will be addressing class 4 roads along waterways and will need to be addressed. So if we are interested in making it a trail, pushing for a connecting community trail system and working with the landowners would likely be the most successful angle. Kellie would be a strong advocate. Since its still a class 4 road we can still use it.

Mary, one of the landowners also had some concerns about Pumpkin Hill which we sould address. Lots of people are turning down her driveway looking for the Pumpkin Hill town forest. It needs better signage, access road upgrades and easy parking. We need more signage and need to get in touch with the new owner to see if we can put it on their land. Boy scouts have created a pit toilet but she finds that its unsightly. Dave said two scouts were interested in making a composting mound system. But the last scout who was going to make it his project decided on another project. We even had a site picked out for it. We need to address it and maybe try get a high school group or another eagle scout involved, or both. The actual toilet could just be removed if need be.

2. Dave blew up the EAB map from VT invasives that shows that southern Danville is just outside of the zone. Wes is getting more calls from landowners about it, but doesn't think we are going to see it in earnest for a while. He says he is really relying on the landowners to get in touch with him.

3. Looking at the plan: Wes suggested we should be getting in touch and reaching out to key businesses to educate them to not allow firewood from out of town or state. Sugar ridge campground is of specific concern.

Wes is also concerned that when we do get rid of the ash trees, the Marshall Yard place may not be an option due to overload of material. Dave says where we are going to put all the material has always been a concern.

Dave says we might want to take a look around and take a walk to see what we can see along the roads closest to the infested zones this spring before the trees leaf out. We should be looking for blanding, woodpecker marks, etc. exit holes. We should do an educational walk and invite the public and then tell people to look when they do their greenup day.

Vange is going to send out a link to the EAB plan so we can edit and update the document for next meeting.

4. Adopted minutes for January 4th's meeting
5. Next meeting is March 1st 7pm

