

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL OPEN MEETING

September 22, 2012

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at the Arnold Family White Cedar Swamp at 9:05 AM by L. Arnold, Chair.
- II. ROLL CALL: Present: L. Arnold, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Excused: C. Connery, G. Klinger and H. Hultgren.
- III. MONITORING ARNOLD FAMILY WHITE CEDAR SWAMP
 1. The signs on the roadway (Route 1A) were cleaned and trash picked up.
 2. The white cedar trees appeared to be stress free and new growth noted.
 3. The water level of the swamp appeared about normal.
 4. A number of Cat-o'-nine-tails are growing along the edge of the Swamp.
 5. Photos were taken for comparative purposes.
- IV. MONITORING SCHOOLHOUSE POND PRESERVE
 1. It was observed that there is extensive laurel throughout the Preserve.
 2. There is a dense under story of white pine seedlings and saplings in various areas.
 3. Work has been done on the access road to smooth it and rocks have been moved to trail heads to preclude ATVs and other types of vehicles.
 4. Noted about a dozen white pine trees (about 6" diameter) have been cut down and timber removed. L. Arnold will contact Public Works Dept to see if they have any knowledge of what happened.
 5. No invasive plants such as bittersweet and wild grape were found.
 6. No insect infestation was seen.
 7. The addition of owl houses in several places was noted.
 8. Noted that some parts of the trails need to be pruned.
 9. The trail blazes need to be redone.
 10. Photos were taken for comparative purposes.
- V. Motion to adjourn by K. Simoneau. 2nd: F. Safford. Aye: L. Arnold, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Richard Thieke, Secretary

The next regular meeting of the Commission will be September 25, 2012.