

Fish committee meeting minutes
Ellingwood Information Center
April 18 2019

Members present on the Fish committee:

Rick Poland
Jay Crooker
Brent Fogg
Nate Simmons
Tyler Cheney

Non members:

Kristine Poland, Selectman
Alison Hanley Lee
Wendy Arzate
Hope Prentice
Lyn Prentice
Mark Becker

Rick Poland called the meeting to order at 6:05pm

It was noted that members Brent Fogg, Nate Simmons, and Tyler Cheney had not yet been sworn in, so the group did not have a quorum and as such could not take votes.

Jay Crooker discussed the plans for new fish ladder that the Selectmen are currently considering. He also noted that the Selectmen had decided to start fish ladder in Fall 2020, not 2019 as originally considered. This was in consideration of the other projects currently planned in Bristol Mills this Fall (replacement of culvert on Upper Round Pond Road, as well as dam repairs).

Alison Hanley Lee has been appointed fish count volunteer coordinator. Wendy Arzate as assistant. Lyn and Hope Prentice have offered to help. Fish counting will begin sometime in May. Date to be announced soon.

Finding volunteers to count fish will begin the beginning of May. Jay Crooker indicated he was working on an online system to manage volunteers.

Fish committee will set up the leader around the 4th or 5th of May. Soon after, clearing of debris in the river would occur to ensure efficient fish passage during the entire run.

Jay Crooker discussed how one of the goals of the Fish Committee moving forward is to come to a consensus on any changes to the ladder (and leader fence) before any one member makes changes on their own. Conflicts in the past have arisen when members acted independently rather than deciding as a group on changes.

Raising money for the fish ladder will begin sometime in May. Amount needed to be discussed after core testing to assess conditions of ledge where ladder will be located. These results will help attain a better estimate of fill and masonry work needed.

Mark Becker discussed methods of raising funds at Damariscotta Fish Ladder.

Next meeting tentatively set for May 9th. Date and location to be announced

Meeting adjourned 7:25pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Crooker