



Auburn, Maine

Conservation Working Group

60 Court Street | Auburn, Maine 04210
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January 17 6 pm, Senior Community Center Minutes

1) Sam Boss called the meeting to order at 6:04.

Roll Call of Working Group members:

Present: Rhyanna Larose, Amy Dieterich, Dave Griswold, Jane Costlow, Sam Boss

Absent: Adam Platz

Visitor: Carol Lane

The group made brief introductions for our visitor, and explained the role of the Working Group

2) November minutes will be reviewed and approved at the February meeting.

3) Updates & Discussion

- Jane gave a brief update on SNRB work on AGRP, the status of deliberations before Planning Board
- Invasive Species Working group update.
Sam met with ALT and Audubon, they are both interested in working with us on invasives. Dave reported on the work done by Bates students under his supervision; they suggested focusing on homeowners, with a focus on bittersweet. The Forest Board will be spearheading this effort, which may be neighborhood based. Once a workshop has been organized, similar workshops could be done in different neighborhoods.

5) Planning ahead/Work in Progress

- Unclear whether there will be a Winter Fest this year, given the mild weather and lack of snow.
- Continue to work on invasives.
- There was brief discussion of potential speakers and potential collaborations. Rhyanna suggested someone working on bat conservation, and brought up the idea of making bat houses.
Sam suggested the Wild Seed project might be a contact, perhaps connecting them with the PAL center. Sam and Dave will contact Shawn Boyd. Jane will contact the person at Audubon who has worked with Trinity and Sophia's House in Lewiston.
- Sam gave a brief summary of grant activity on Littlefield Dam. Hopefully we can explore possibilities for boating on the Little Androscoggin, including installing a boat launch. There was

brief discussion of various locations to site a launch, either on the Washington Street side or Broad Street side.

- There was brief discussion of potential education collaborations with [Evergreen Outdoor Education \[Will Libby\]](#) and Auburn Middle School [Ben Wilson, new principal].
- Restarting “Green Drinks” with other community partners: Sam – seems like good idea!

6) New Business, Upcoming Events, and Agenda Items for February

Sam: The working group needs to have officer elections. Will be topic of discussion at next meeting.

Dave noted that SNRB working groups are supposed to report out regularly to City Council; the Forest Board was supposed to report last March. Dave has made list of accomplishments, may wind up presenting in public session.

7) Public Comment. None

Meeting adjourned at 7:50.