

Town of New Haven
Conservation Commission Meeting
Town Offices

Thursday, December 8, 2016, 276 Willow Lane, New Haven

(Rt. 7 South, past Maplefields, left at bottom of hill before crossing the New Haven River)

Members present - Dean Percival, Susan Smiley, Al Karnatz, Mark Krawczyk
and guest - Patrick Cairney

Agenda:

Meeting Opening

- Request for any changes to agenda
- Welcome guests
- Reading/Approval of last meetings minutes

Financial Report

- Financial report

New Business

- Annual Planning for 2017 projects and opportunities.

We discussed the "**Biggest Tree Contest**" for the town of New Haven - modeled on Branch Out Burlington's Awesome Tree Contest

We will have a few categories, - diameter, height..., 'unique'?

Al will share info on Westminster's contest

Mark will pass along the details of Branch Out Burlington's contest details
(www.branchoutburlington.org)

This is a project we'll begin to broadcast early in the new year and likely culminate it with an event/tree ID walk in early spring

We can also add content to the NHCC website about some of these unique/noteworthy specimens (pending landowner approval of course)

Also - We discussed Patrick Cairney hosting an **Amphibian inventory** with Beeman students as things start to warm up in spring

This could be a Saturday parent-child activity

and possibly piggy back on an Armchair Naturalist talk with Jim Andrews on amphibians the Thursday prior

- Armchair Naturalist Speaker Series, January, February

- January - Moose - She asked for a \$70 honorarium for her talk - All members present agreed to meet her request

- February - Snakes?
- March - Fish (Either Jesse H or a state fish biologist). A general talk about the state of our overall fish population might bring a larger crowd. Either Shaw Good or Brian Chipman would be good.

We closed the meeting by discussing a desire to attract additional members