

Minutes of the Commissioner Training Subcommittee of the Inland Wetlands Agency on
February 16, 2011.

Meeting called to order 6:34

Roll Call Sally Lee, John Higgins, Ken Cowden

Discussion of potential training activities.

Purpose of meeting is to come up with new ideas to train not only new commissioners but also local people.

Subway – Perhaps they would be willing to use their pervious surface to help educate the public. Ken has a connection that has examples of pervious concrete we can see after the snow melts. Issues are upkeep no sand, or salt as it breaks down. Magic Melt is a possible alternative depending on its environmental impact. We will need to do research before we present.

Snow removal – new machine can be brought up to your site and melts the snow. It is called the Dragon. Looks like a large dump truck 8 million btu's of heat and melts snow instead of leaving it on the lot until snow melts. They put it over a catch basin to drain. Unsure what happens to the salt and sand when it goes into the catch basin, we can research for next season. Educate the public about what they should use on their sidewalks and driveways that won't harm the environment and or animals that need to live around us.

New Commissioners – They are exposed to too much all at once. Need more hands on training such as walking on a horse farm instead of just sitting in a classroom. It's very hard to make it useful to all people in all situations. Follow state guidelines and apply to an individual project basis and is it within our purview.

Possible field trips within the commission to show some of the things we come across time and again. ie. Silt fence, infiltrators, Catch basins, separators, etc. Site walks are the most helpful for training new commissioners.

Looking at and locating invasive species helps identify them instead of just looking in a book.

Check with MaryRose to see if we can do field trips.

Set up a wetlands booth at Oyster festival and town events to help educate the public. Show people what wetlands are and different invasive species are so they can get rid of invasives.

Meet again in April/May to plan something for Oyster Festival.

Close meeting at 7:00

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Collins