

## Dummerston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes 6/8/17

NOTE: DUE TO AN EMAIL ADDRESSING ERROR, THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING WAS NOT RECEIVED AT THE TOWN OFFICE FOR TIMELY POSTING IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING. THEREFORE, THE DECISIONS NOTED IN #1 AND #4, BELOW, WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR VOTES AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING, JULY 13, 2017.

Members attending: Mary Ellen Copeland, John Andersen, Lynn Levine, Ed Anthes, Bill Schmidt, Betsy Whitaker, Bill Johnson, Jonathan Royce

1. Minutes were approved as submitted. Moved by Betsy Whitaker, seconded by Lynn Levine. Unanimous.

2. A discussion was held regarding a community member's concern about a proposed subdivision of 97 acres in north Dummerston, off Purple Mountain Rd. The Dummerston Development Review Board will hold a Public Hearing on the issue on Tuesday June 20, 2017. Several Conservation Commissioners plan to attend to better inform ourselves on this issue.

3. Upcoming Events:

Dutton Pines Pot Luck June 25, 5:30 pm. Mike Mrowiki and Amelia Struthers will provide entertainment. The Conservation Commission will provide watermelon and ingredients for S'mores.

August: "Hurricane of '38" with Stephen Long

Patti Smith will be presenting in September on wetlands.

There will be a hike up Prospect, led by Jonathan Royce, after the Views comes out, on August 12 at 1:00 am, rain or shine!

4. Lynn Levine has been working with Lindsey Glabach Royce and the Dummerston School 5<sup>th</sup> grade class on developing a brochure for the trail up to Prospect Pasture. They have explored the trail, researched the area, and prepared the trail guide. There are 9 stops on the trail. The American Forest Foundation gave a grant for the project. Additional copies of the Trail Guide will be provided by the Conservation Commission, from a box at the trailhead.

Betsy moved that \$40 be allocated for 100 additional copies, John seconded. Approved unanimously.

#### 5. Discussion of upcoming Programs and Priorities

The commission began a discussion of commission focus and priorities in the coming year. In addition to current program and activities, the commission wants to increase its focus on “knowing Dummerston” and the involvement of young people and families in commission activities. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

#### 6. Prospect Hill

The pasture needs clearing again this year, and has been approved by the trustees. Long term plans need to be developed for the continuing need to clear shrub growth to preserve the pasture and blueberries that grow there.

#### 7. Fall programs- possibilities include:

Michael Clough, So VT Natural History Museum, with live animals

“Birds at Your Feeders”

Ben Kilham on bears

Forest Hammond

Alcott Smith

Doug Blodgett

Snakes and Amphibians

Winter Education Series

8. Sightings: loons at Sunset Lake are setting on eggs, monarch butterfly, bear near Stickney Brook Rd, bear on Moon Hollow, flying squirrels, grey fox, turkeys

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Anthes