

## Dummerston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes 10/10/17

Members attending: Mary Ellen Copeland, John Andersen, Ed Anthes, , Judy Fink, Betsy Whitaker, Bill Schmidt, Bill Johnson

1. Minutes for the meeting of September 14, 2017, were approved as submitted. Moved by Betsy Whitaker, seconded by Judy Fink. Unanimous.
2. The Proposed Conservation Commission Plan for 2017-18 year was discussed, including upcoming educational programs for the year.
3. Educational Programs

October 12- State Archeologist Jess Robinson. The Historical Society will co-sponsor this event. At Dummerston School.

October 24 – Deer in the Woods: Too Many, Too Few, or Just Right? with George Weir, David Deen, Forest and Parks' Tim Morton and state deer biologist Nick Fortin. At the Learning Collaborative.

November 15- Beavers, with Skip Lisle and Patti Smith

December- Birds at Your Feeders

January- Trees and Tracking, with Lynn Levine

February Series-

4 Mornings: What we need to know and do to protect our local environment in a time of climate change. Possible speakers and programs:

Stephan Long- the Effects of Big Storms on the Forests

Mark Breen- Predicting the Weather

Tom Wessells- Reading the Forested Landscape

Vern Grubinger- Agricultural Effects

March- Bears

April--Managing your landscape for wildlife with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

May- Wildflowers with John Anderson

June- Planting for Pollinators with Tom Sullivan  
Snakes

4. Regional Conservation Commissions Meeting: November 16. Location to be announced (either Westminster West or Saxton's River).
5. Bill Johnson will coordinate soliciting volunteers at the election Nov. 7 for Conservation stewardship projects in Dummerston.
6. Dutton Pines sign is down for the winter.
7. Raingarden sign still looks to be in good shape.
8. Sightings: bald eagle over Putney Rd; monarch chrysalis on zucchini plant, hatched; monarchs grabbed by hawks, but quickly spit out; anthracnose and four other fungi on maple, apple, cherry; red humped oak worm feeding on oaks; more birds than ever before counted on Putney Mtn. including 130 Bald Eagles so far; thousands of Canada geese on Retreat Meadows; turkeys.
9. Next meeting: Thursday, November 9 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Anthes