

Dummerston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes 11/9/17

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

1. Minutes for the meeting of October 10, 2017, were approved as submitted. Moved by Betsy Whitaker, seconded by Bill Schmidt. Unanimous.
2. Educational Programs
 - Past meetings:
 - October 12- State Archeologist Jess Robinson. Very well received. We will have Jess back again next October to speak about local archeology after European settlement.
 - October 24 – Deer in the Woods: Too Many, Too Few, or Just Right? Excellent turnout and presentation. Much positive comment from people who saw the video on BCTV.
 - Upcoming Programs:
 - November 15- Beavers, with Skip Lisle and Patti Smith. At Dummerston School, 7 pm.
 - December- Birds at Your Feeders, with Ned Pokras. Photos by Chris Petrak. Wednesday, Dec 6, 7 pm, Dummerston School.
 - January- Trees and Tracking, in the woods with Lynn Levine
 - January 24, 10-12 am. “Ties to the Land”. Land ownership succession planning.
 - February Series-
 - 4 Wednesday Mornings, 10-12 am: What we need to know and do to protect our local environment in a time of climate change.
 - March- Bears--Jaclyn Comeau
 - April --Managing Our land for Wildlife with the Dept. of Forests and Parks
 - May- Wildflowers with John Anderson, Planting for Pollinators

June- Invasives program, snakes with Alcott Smith or Jim Andrews

3. Regional Conservation Commissions Meeting: November 29, 6 pm. Potluck first. Westminster West Church.

4. Bill Johnson spoke with several interested volunteers for Conservation stewardship projects in Dummerston and several people volunteered. We will continue our campaign to build a team of volunteers.

5. Sightings: Putney Mtn. Hawk Watch counted 14,783 raptors and 2-3 times as many Monarch butterflies this year compared to the last several years. Red fox, likely rabid skunk near Green Mtn Camp Rd.

6. Next meeting: Thursday, December 14 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Anthes