

## Dummerston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes 4/12/18

Members attending: Mary Ellen Copeland, Ed Anthes, Bill Schmidt, Judy Fink, John Anderson, Lynn Levine

1. Minutes for the meeting of March 8, 2018, were approved as submitted. Moved by Judy Fink, seconded by Lynn Levine. Unanimous.
2. A financial report was discussed and Lynn Levine moved to accept the report. Seconded by John Anderson. Unanimous.
3. At the semi-annual regional Conservation Commissions Meeting, there was strong support to submit a Tiny Grant Request to the Assoc. of Vermont Conservation Commissions to develop a coordinated website for Conservation Commissions and environmental groups' events. A proposal was written and submitted to AVCC. Judy Fink moved that the Conservation Commission endorse the proposal, seconded by Lynn Levine. Unanimous.

#### 4. Educational Programs

April 25- VT Fish and Wildlife will present on Creating and Managing Wildlife Habitat for a variety of species, from butterflies to birds to brook trout. 7 pm at Dummerston School.

May 1 Arbor Day program- "Wise Trees" to be held at 7 pm in the Brattleboro Art Museum.

May 12- Planting for Pollinators. With Tom Sullivan. Co-sponsored with Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center (BEEC)

May 24- Wildflowers with John Anderson, at Dummerston Church, 7 pm.

June- Ferns with Lynn Levine

October- VT State Archeologist, cosponsored with Dummerston Historical Society.

5. Deer browsing: Lynn gave two presentations to foresters, and reported interest in conducting quantifiable studies of deer browsing behavior and the effects on hardwood forest regeneration.

6. Prospect Pasture- on June 29, Jonathan Royce will lead a crew to clear invasive brush from the pasture. Volunteers are welcome. Contact Bill Schmidt, [elysian2@svcable.net](mailto:elysian2@svcable.net)
7. West River Trail- John Anderson will work with this group to identify vulnerable and fragile areas before work begins for the year.
8. Deer Run Nature Reserve- investigation continues on the proposal to conserve a large parcel of woodland in northwest Dummerston.
9. Emerald Ash Borer has been found in Caledonia County. The expected mortality rate for ash hosting the EAB is 99%. Several years ago, Commission members surveyed the ash trees along town roads and reported the results to the Selectboard and Road Foreman, as an aid to planning for the removal of dead ash if the EAB comes to Dummerston.
10. Sightings: Bloodroot, tree swallows, phoebes.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 10 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Anthes