

Dummerston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes 9/13/18

Members attending: Bill Schmidt, John Anderson, Mary Ellen Copeland, Ed Anthes, Chris Olsen, Judy Fink, Bill Johnson

1. Minutes for the meeting of August 9, 2018, were approved as submitted. Moved by Judy Fink, seconded by Bill Schmidt. Unanimous.
2. Ideas for fundraising were shared. Plans are being put together for a fund raising letter and drive in January. A summary report of Conservation Commission activities will be prepared to report our accomplishments since the last fundraising drive.
3. Twilight Walk at Elyssian Hills- about 30 people attended on a warm summer night.
4. Assoc. of Vermont Conservation Commissions Summit in Poultney Sept 30, focused on water issues.
5. Educational Programs
Sept 15: Putney Mountain Hawk Watch 10-3 with John Andersen. (Rain date Sept 16)
October 23: VT State Archeologist, co-sponsored with Dummerston Historical Society, at the Evening Star Grange, 7pm.
Other programs being planned:
December- Logging workshop being planned by Judy Fink and Chris Olsen.
February- 4 morning workshops--Bill Johnson is working on this series-- possible talks on conservation genetics
David Sobel, Antioch educator and writer on children in nature, will speak next Spring-being planned by Judy Fink.
6. A report was given about the recent meeting of representatives from regional conservation groups where co-sponsoring and coordinating activities was discussed. There was strong support among the groups for coordinated activities, including communicating about each group's activities. A follow up meeting will precede the Regional Conservation Commissions meeting November 15 at 5. (See below.)
7. Regional Conservation Commission Meeting: Dummerston will host the semi-annual meeting November 15 in the Dummerston Church. Potluck at 6, meeting from 7-8:30. The focus will be in issues raised in advance by specific groups.
8. The Prospect Pasture Invasives workday is cancelled. The commission, in collaboration with the Prospect Hill Trustees, is working on a plan to control the invasives that may include purchase of equipment and assistance from the town cres.
9. Rare and endangered plants: a patch of Three Bird Orchid was identified by a logger and forester, and steps taken to preserve the plants.

10. Sightings: turkeys, immature Red Tail hawk, lots of different caterpillars, monarch butterflies and hummingbirds still here, bears

Next meeting: Thursday, October 11 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Anthes