

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 7/11/19

Members attending: Judy Fink, John Anderson, Mary Ellen Copeland, Ed Anthes, David Greenwalt, Bill Johnson

Others attending: Richard Mills

1. Minutes for the meeting of June 13, 2019 were approved. Moved by Judy Fink, seconded by David Greenwalt. Unanimous.
2. The financial report was reviewed. About \$2,350 has been raised in the fundraising appeal to date.
3. Dummerston School- following a discussion, Judy Fink moved that the Conservation Commission continue sponsoring environmental education conducted by Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center at the school as the school has requested. Bill Johnson seconded. Approved, unanimous. Reports from teachers and children are very, very positive.
4. Summer Educational Programs:
Monarch Butterflies, Kelly Price, July 17. 7 pm at Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center, Brattleboro and a fern walk with Lynn Levine in August.
5. Future Educational Programs for the Fall were discussed. It was proposed that each program have several components including a talk by a local expert, reviewing relevant maps, and a weekend walk.

Programs will include:

- September - **Geology of Dummerston**. This workshop will set the scene for the series. Roger Haydock will give a 45-minute presentation about the geological underpinnings of Dummerston.
 - October - **Ancient Historical Maps**. We would like to partner with the Dummerston Historical Society. A presenter will use old maps to give the history of how the town boundaries were established and how people lived in our town.
 - November – **Topographical Maps of Dummerston**. David Greenwalt will be the presenter for this program. The presentation will include a basic understanding of how/why topographical maps are made, how to read them and what to look for.
 - December – **Mammals**. Mary Ellen has contacted Kim Royer from the State to present. Focus is where the mammals and wildlife corridors are in Dummerston and how they have been identified.
6. VT Fish and Wildlife is asking for volunteers to count Little Brown Bats as they leave their maternal roosts, between July 11 and July 30. More info: Alyssa.Bennett@state.vt.us

7. Ridgeline project- a discussion was held with a new mapping version as the Commission examines this issue from the Town Plan.
8. Deer Run Nature Preserve is sponsoring a hike on July 28 at 2:30. More info: 257-0012.
9. John Anderson has found another fifteen species of flowering plants in Dummerston to add to the town inventory.
10. Climate change- Bill Johnson spoke about the book, Drawdown, which describes 80 methods of reducing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Two copies of Drawdown are available for circulation at the Lydia Taft Pratt Library in West Dummerston.
11. Sightings: turkeys (hens and chicks), beaver, bears, porcupine, scarlet tanager, deer. Nest of Blue herons in Westminster.

Next meeting: Thursday, August 8 at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ed Anthes.