

Dummerston Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes 10/8/20

Members attending: John Anderson, Ed Anthes, Judy Fink, Christine Goepf, David Greenewalt, Dan Kray, Lynn Levine, Jesse Wampler

1. Minutes for the meeting of September 10, 2020 were approved. Moved by Lynn Levine, seconded by Judy Fink. Unanimous.
2. Judy Fink reported on the Monarch Butterfly project. John Anderson reported over 800 Monarchs have been counted at the Putney Mt. Hawkwatch to date, about 79% lower than in 2019. There seems to be a five to nine year population cycle. The Monarchs migrate at high elevations, like Broadwing hawks. Conservation Commission is concerned not only about Monarchs, but also about other pollinators and protecting the habitats they need.
3. Town mapping of invasives, rare plants, wetlands and other sensitive habitats near roads was discussed. Work on a map for review by the Commission will continue.
4. Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center at Dummerston School- a report of activities at the school was reviewed. A combination of remote, in person and virtual learning is being used.
5. Covered Bridge- access to the river is now covered with gravel. The former steps are now a ramp. A discussion about possible improvements was held. Further discussion will continue in the Spring.
6. Emerald Ash Borer- Training for ash surveyors, online and in person, socially distanced, are being held this week. The aim is to complete the roadside ash survey by Spring. Dummerston has been divided into road segments. Participants can sign up on a Google doc. Contact Dan Kray at [info@DummerstonConservation.org](mailto:info@DummerstonConservation.org).
7. The Nature Trail behind the Dummerston School has been completed and is in use.
8. Sightings- bald eagle; black bear with three cubs, eating apples; turkeys.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 10 at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ed Anthes