

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 6/10/2021

Members attending: Dan Kray, Judy Fink, Christine Goepp, John Anderson, David Greenwalt, Connie Woodberry

1. May Minutes: Motion to approve by Judy Fink, seconded by Dan Kray. Unanimous approval by commission.
2. Financial Report: Has not been sent to the Commission yet. Voting on approval to pay Rick for his work on the conservation stations.
3. Discussion on meeting styles (in-person, hybrid, or alternating meetings): Will put this discussion on hold until a complete commission meeting.
4. Online Outreach
 - a. Newsletter content (Dan Kray): Solid newsletter from Dan and John this month. Attempting to grow content on trails and articles. Will try to include a bit more information on individual trails around Dummerston; a monthly trail effort. David considering a revised town trail map collection - possibly for the conservation stations. May be based on a previous Lynn Levine map / trail product and will attempt to determine details on how the commission should address trail access, parking, and other issues that need solving for efficient and safe access. Content and effort can be spread amongst commission members.
 - b. Web site content (Dan Kray): Our first official blog entry for the Monarch Project (from Judy and her team) is up! Language will be taken by Christine and used for social media announcements.
 - c. Dummerston sightings: John got photos from a friend of a bobcat killing a fawn; it was a good-sized bobcat. Lots of foxes this year. Christine had a litter (?) of baby skunks on the property with no mother nearby; they were most likely abandoned. Judy has birds nesting in the eaves of her garage, both Phoebes and Robins are present. Also, Judy wins with the first firefly sighting of the season! Connie had a nest of turkey eggs hatch nearby.
 - d. Conservation stations (via Richard Mills pre-meeting): Update on usage - John reports very few visits to the station to this point. Most likely need a higher traffic area for visitors. This is a starting point and location; concept and publicity will grow moving forward.
5. Active Programs
 - a. BEEC activities (Judy Fink): No updates
 - b. Monarch project (Judy Fink): Judy is doing online training on Saturday, 12 Jun 21 and will be passing along information from a new package of material that she received. Plant pick-up is still scheduled for Saturday, June 19th from 11am - 2pm at Bunker Farm. Most of last year's participants will be returning this year. Christine will send out a social media reminder for the pick-up on the 19th. Those with advance

orders / pick-ups will have their plants set aside. Per plant price is free due a received grant - there should be plenty of plants available.

- c. Land Stewardship
 - i. Rain Garden: Christine will be taking some dogwoods over for the garden.
 - ii. Steps at Covered Bridge: Christine is holding on addressing ideas to the Selectboard until they respond to previous submissions and advice. Roger Haydock visited and doesn't believe a new / varied path in the same area is possible.
- d. Active Programs:
 - i. Emerald Ash Borer: Christine reports Middle Road is complete. No other significant updates. Group message to follow as a reminder to keep on keeping on with tagging.
 - ii. Invasives: Still working on addressing Japanese Knotweed along the stream at Middle Road and Tucker Reed Road. Homeowners in that area are up to working in the long-term to mitigate this growth area.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 8th at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson