

Dummerston Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes 9/9/2021

Members attending: Christine Goepp, David Greenwalt, Rick Mills, Lynn Levine, Jesse Wempler, Dan Kray

1. Stewart McDermott and Sue Kelly (Vet) presented *Environmental Impact of Housecats - Cats and the Stats / Cats and Wildlife Preservation*
2. Administrative
  - a. Financial Report: Motion to accept put forth by Lynn Levine, seconded Rick Mills. Approved by unanimous consent.
  - b. August Minutes: Motion to accept put forth by Lynn Levine, seconded Rick Mills. Approved by unanimous consent.
  - c. Commission forwarded individual contributions to Lynn Levine for Judy Fink's going away gift.
3. Public Outreach:
  - a. Newsletter content: Will determine a method to provide information tonight's presentation and/or contact information for the presenters in the newsletter and across other social media. Current newsletter includes Dutton Pines trail data/information. Lynn Levine put forth the idea of putting out advance notice for upcoming trail data and asking the community to interact and provide insight on trails that they've gathered.
  - b. Website content: Nothing new for the website. Looking to get more trail information added in the near future. Due to the cancellation of the town party, where the maps were to be presented, these items may well be input to the website, when able.
  - c. Conservation stations (Richard Mills): Second station is in the works. Possibility of building a children's stations in future. The first station is getting plenty of use from all indications.
  - d. Christine Goepp forwarded information on state grants to the Selectboard. The grants could assist in future planning for flood susceptible areas in our town.
  - e. Christine Goepp provided information about the status of the railroad culvert work performed at Dummerston Landing after the big storm. The Army Corps of Engineers attempted to remove some of the excess fill.
4. Active Programs:
  - a. Covered Bridge: Christine Goepp met with the Selectboard about the steps. She and Lynn Levine met with Cory Ross, District Manager of the Windham County Natural Resources Conservation District, about grants to work on remedying the stair situation. The process is ongoing with an outline of ideas due to the Board in the future. The

goal is to remedy the issue with limited future maintenance needs. The overall project may be able to access both design and implementation/construction grants. The Commission has collected some rudimentary and informal data on the number of river users.

- b. Trout/Fish Stocking: Rick Mills reports that he's been in touch with State entities who can help us participate in various opportunities and grants that can assist the community in moving forward with stocking ideas. Christine Goepp and Lynn Levine will reach out moving forward for Commission detente and maybe eventual presentation of their ideas to our community in October.
- c. Speakers/Seminars/Events: For the October meeting we will have the Department of Wildlife present on fish and fishing sustainability specific to the Dummerston area. The focus will be on fish and wildlife, but this may be a first step in future presentations. Christine Goepp will also continue to work on a Japanese Knotweed presentation at future meetings or as a separate commission-sponsored event.
- d. Emerald Ash Borer update (Dan Kray): Information has slowed to a trickle. Would like to move forward with a hard push - maybe a meeting and training at the Town Hall for a final run at the mapping the remaining Dummerston roads.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 14th at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson