

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 12/9/2021

Members attending: Christine Goepp, Lynn Levine, John Anderson, Rick Mills, David Greenwalt, (Amy Wall – potential board member)

1. Administrative

- a. November Minutes: Motion to accept put forth by Lynn Levine, seconded Rick Mills. Approved by unanimous consent.
- b. Financial Report: Motion to accept put forth by Lynn Levine, seconded by Rick Mills. Approved by unanimous consent.
- c. The 2021 Dummerston Town Report motion to approve is put forth by John Anderson, seconded by Rick Mills. Approved by unanimous consent.
- d. New members: Amy Wall attended the meeting as a potential future commission member. Rick Mills says that there are two additional possible interested future members. The commission will continue to consider options moving forward for the three vacancies.

2. Public Outreach:

- a. Website / email server: Christine Goepp continues to work through the changes needed going forward. A bill from eSolutions arrived and will be paid, but consideration for continued use of that service is under consideration. e-Solutions manages web services and maintain the web domain. There is also a web hosting company working for e-Services that provides some additional services: content management services (i.e. WordPress). At this point, Dan Goepp can present multiple ways to manage a website, with all organic functions, via a single source. Cost of options is essentially the same as what is in use right now, but most likely with easier access and capabilities. The commission may migrate to some future all-in-one interface for website work moving forward. As for email capability, we are working to create a more streamlined capability, possibly involving MailChimp. Christine Goepp will contact Dan Kray (former commission member) to further research where we are, and then sort out a direction moving forward.
- b. Newsletter/content: We are working on the management and processing of the newsletter. The current method is unrelated to the website but more along the lines of a Listserv delivery capability. As for the current newsletter, the Commission plans on beginning to advertise upcoming events. The commission is planning on publicizing an ongoing flying squirrel distribution study in New England.
- c. Sightings: Amy Wall passed along two bobcats near the fire pond on Schoolhouse Road. Lynn Levine saw fox tracks, together, that are indicative of mating, since foxes are solitary – it often appears as one set of tracks, but suddenly split indicating two animals. Lots of mice,

squirrel, and deer tracks showing up on such great (light snow) tracking conditions. John Anderson had two moose in his yard recently. Two days ago, John also had a mink sighting.

- d. John Anderson says that we have an article due shortly for the Views of Dummerston and we are looking for subject matter. Members will be passing along options for material.
 - e. Trails: The commission is working on a handover on descriptions and trail maps for the Dummerston area - a trail 'spotlight' system. Lynn Levine will continue to work on descriptions, maps will be coordinated by David Baxendale and added to the description, and results published via various commission social media avenues. Expecting Prospect Hill to be next month's nominee.
3. Active Programs:
- a. Maple Valley brewery meeting: The commission had attendees and will request party status in the proceeding. Members that attended the meeting passed along information learned at the pre-hearing site visit.
 - b. Covered Bridge stairs: The pending construction grant (VOREC) application has been put on hold until next year. The application for the design grant is moving forward. The commission is also pivoting a bit and considering other homegrown options. Christine Goepp will follow-up on the design grant timeline and/or deadlines. Lynn Levine did ask a landscape architect to take a look at the stairs. Report to follow.
 - c. Emerald Ash Borer: No updates
4. Speakers / Seminars
- a. John Anderson will present on the 2021 Hawk Migration Project on Putney Mountain / Workshop. Looks like January 6 at 7pm is now the target. We need to arrange for a screen and projector.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 13th at 6 pm, location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson