

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 5/12/2022

Members attending: Christine Goepp, Lynn Levine, John Anderson, David Greenwalt, Amy Wall, Jesse Wagner, Rick Mills, and Emily Alexander

- Administrative
 - Financial Report - three invoices in transit or received from BEEC, BCTV, and Mike Clough. Invoices will be forwarded to Charlotte / Selectboard. **Motion to approve put forth by Amy Wall, seconded by Jesse Wagner. Approved by unanimous consent.**
 - April Minutes - **Motion to approve put forth by Amy Wall, seconded by Jesse Wagner. Approved by unanimous consent.**
- Programs:
 - Newsletter / Trail of the Month - May newsletter successfully published; lots of content. The Missing Link trail, between Prospect Hill and Putney Mountain, will be the trail of the month for June. Lynn Levine will also continue to contribute content. Any future announcements for events will also be included in the June newsletter.
 - Website - Emily Alexander is working on a mock-up of an updated/new site prior to the next meeting and will pass it along for comment to other commission members. She'll be gathering inputs throughout the month.
 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) input/s - The town asked the commissions and committees how incoming ARPA funds might be utilized. Members discussed possibilities but made no final decisions at this meeting. Amy Wall says that making the town snowmobile circuit more of a multi-use 'path' could be an option. Amy will reach out the snowmobile club to discuss combined options. John Anderson suggested some funds for the steps at the covered bridge or the rain garden near the bridge. Christine Goepp is considering advocating for better safety road signage on trafficked roads in Dummerston; the signage would better intimate that there are bicycles and/or walker on the road and care/share/safety needs should be considered. Rick Mills suggested trash/recycling cans at the swimming locales during swimming season, as well as additional book purchases for the conservation stations. Amy Wall suggested that the outdoor space at the school for town recreation events and public exercise could be supported. Additionally, could funds for the school pavilion project be secured, vice relying on fund raising requirement?
 - Facebook - "Animals of Dummerston" video, from last month's event, is now posted.
 - Conservation Stations - Rick Mills now has two more conservation stations that are 90% complete. Rick will finish the stations with signage, plexi-glass, and any other small details. The commission will continue to determine the best town locations.
 - Land Stewardship

- Covered Bridge Steps - The commission believes that after the design grant has been completed there will be follow-up funding available for construction.
- Speakers / Seminars
 - May - Fern walk (Lynn Levine) is scheduled for Saturday, May 14th.
 - June - As of now, there is no plan for an event or speaker. There is a possibility of having David Baker talk about his life in sugaring.
- Town Plan - The commission (David Greenwalt) will review the 2018 Town Plan for Conservation Commission items for the group to consider and prioritize for the next Town Plan. Expect to see discussion items on next month's agenda. Christine Goepp will query Town Clerk about upcoming Town Plan deadlines.
- Sightings/envelope stuffing
 - Dummerston welcome package effort is ongoing. The commission has a list of new Dummerston residents that we will welcome to the community. Envelopes were stuffed tonight and will be sent out.
 - We got muddy snapping turtles in transit, bluejays scoping out birdbaths, porcupines on paths, and pine warblers!

Next meeting: Thursday, June 16th at 6 pm at the Town Office

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson