

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 10/13/2022

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

- Administrative
 - Financial Report: Reviewed. New website charge is only additional. Squarespace. **Rick Mills motions to accept; John Anderson seconds. Unanimous consent.**
 - August minutes and minutes from early October: Reviewed. **Lynn Levine motions to accept; Jesse Wagner seconds. Unanimous consent.**
- Programs
 - Budget Request - Christine Goepp will write the upcoming budget request.
 - Newsletter / Trail of the month - Small version of newsletter last month with town picnic and no trail. For this month, the upper Black Mountain Summit trail will once again feature. We will ensure that the last version and trail details are updated and correct.
 - Website - Site management is in the process of being transferred to new domain/location. Expect updates in the coming months. Plans are to add additional links for neighboring communities and trails beyond Dummerston.
 - Invasives control - Prospect Hill invasives (buckthorn and honeysuckle) work party was very successful last month (coordinated attack with other agencies *fill in here*). Area cleared near the bench at the summit is a great start to efforts. Continuing discussions around Prospect Hill and future clearing efforts took place. The commission will continue efforts, as needed. Lynn Levine and Jesse Wagner have some connections and will spearhead communication efforts for assessment and possible external funding.
 - Town Plan (2023) - no updates
 - Facebook - no updates
 - Conservation stations - Rick Mills is working on another station; updates to follow. Lynn Levine has donated some boxes of nature-related books and material that John Anderson will use to swap and replenish the station.
 - Land Stewardship
 - Rain Garden - Nothing to report this month. Discussions will be added to next month's agenda/meeting.
 - Steps at Covered Bridge - There will be a meeting on Oct. 18th at 10am. Any stakeholders are welcome to attend. The environmental engineers will present the design phase of their plan for the future efforts.
 - Maple Valley - Nothing to report.

- Speakers / Seminars / Events - The Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC) Conservation Summit Saturday, Oct. 15 “Resilient Communities and Landscapes: Planning for a Climate-Changed Future” is upcoming. Unknown if any members will attend. Summit is being held about an hour north of Dummerston. Lynn Levine will be doing a Zoom briefing in coordination with the Dummerston Historical Society on October 20th; details will be posted to the commission Facebook page. Plans for speakers in November include the possibility of the Rich Earth Institute, or a river water quality presentation. Jesse Wagner and Lynn Levine will lead the efforts in coordinating the event.
- Dummerston Sightings - Deer and dang turkeys. Emily Alexander had a mother bear and three cubs in her area. John Anderson saw the Michael Phelps of gray squirrels swim 800 yards across Sunset Lake!

Next meeting: Thursday, November 10th at 6 pm at the Town Office

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson