

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 7/18/2024

Members attending: Bill Conley, Lew Teich, Jesse Wagner, David Greenewalt, Christine Goepp, Rick Mills

Public attendees: Phil Goepp

- Administration
 - Financial report - No statement received of late.
 - June meeting minutes - Reviewed. **Rick Mills motions to accept; Jesse Wagner seconds. Unanimous consent**, Christine Goepp abstaining.
- Programs
 - Views of Dummerston/newsletter - Lynn Levine will be working the next Views article. Jesse Wagner will provide photos of interesting large local beetles, perhaps with identification and other factoids. Rick will look into a piece on snowmobiling in Dummerston for the fall or winter.
 - Logo/stationary - There will be an adjustment needed to the Commission logo for newsletter usage. The logo is getting cropped in newsletter publication. David Greenewalt is working the issue.
 - Website/Facebook - Work continues on the website. Phil Goepp met with Emily Alexander via Zoom for a briefing on website management. Anticipates updating the website calendar, newsletters, and links to videos soon. Lew Teich, Bill Conley, and Ron Svec to send short bios and pictures to town clerk and Phil Goepp to include on town and DCC websites.
 - Prospect Hill management - Rick Mills met with Lee Chamberlin and hiked up and down the hill. It looks like there may be a way to get access with machinery. This will be discussed formally at the next Prospect Hill Board meeting, prior to the next Selectboard meeting on July 24th. There may be a work day in future, likely in September.
 - Trail book - There is a copy at the town office letting people know how to get access (softcopy) and/or hardcopy. Based on demand, a future decision will be made on publishing, printing, costs, etc. David Greenewalt will have ten copies made for local distribution which will be reimbursed from DCC funds.
 - Covered bridge steps – Contracted work is complete. There will be a planned work day in the near future. Lew Teich will lead the effort on adding vertical supports and sanding/routing of the handrail to avoid splinters and improve graspability. There are also invasives and poison ivy on site that need to be removed. The kiosk needs sprucing up and an informative sheet on the new steps posted. Christine Goepp to contact Corey Ross at WCNRC for an update.
 - Speakers/Seminars/Events - Lynn Levine may do a forest immersion talk/walk in August. September plans are for Judy Fink to come speak on monarch butterflies. Other ideas include Ron Svec on bluebirds in the spring, an orchardist (Erin from Scott Farm?), Kelly Price (game warden), Vern Grubinger, Joe Cook, Vermont State Botanist (Bill Conley to ask), and Roger Haydock.

- Sightings - Root borer beetles. Bears. Red fox!
 - Next meeting: Thursday, August 8th at 6 pm at the Town Office

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson