

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 9/12/2024

Members attending: Lew Teich, Jesse Wagner, Christine Goepp, Lynn Levine, David Greenewalt, Bill Conley

Clerk: Todd Davidson

Public attendees: Phil Goepp, Debbie Miller

- Administration
 - Financial report - Reviewed. Grange is owed \$50 from the last event and will be receiving another \$50 for the monarch talk. Deposit from event is currently in funds. **Motion to approve statement and pay \$100 to the Grange by Lew Teich; seconded by Lynn Levine. Unanimous consent.**
 - September meeting minutes - Reviewed. **Lynn Levine motions to accept; Jesse Wagner seconds. Unanimous consent**, barring Rick Mills abstention.
- Programs
 - Views of Dummerston/newsletter – Lynn will contact Bob Taylor to find out about an article on astronomy. New feature discussed on the theme of invasives versus native plants for gardeners: “Plant This Instead.” As invasive work continues, maybe work that into articles—positively, incorporating different approaches at, e.g., West River Park, Dutton Pines, West River Trail, Riverstone Preserve, etc. Lynn Levine will write the article for the next Views, due on Sept. 17, and maybe a piece on deer overcrowding for newsletter. Lynn will contact Sara Ryan to find out about getting a box with DCC contact information and newsletter signup. David will provide logo if needed. Christine will contact Doug Frantz to try to get a photo for next newsletter.
 - Website/Facebook - Links are working better for current newsletter and some of the archived data. Current work is also now focusing on events and the calendar.
 - Prospect Hill management - Rick Mills reports progress is being made on the mowing. Three bids are in place. Planning for a trust meeting on Sep 18th at 5pm. Post mowing, the commission may follow up with a small workday. Footbridge in wetland needs replacing/repairing, and invasive control throughout.
 - Trail book - David Greenewalt has been reimbursed for the purchases and will bring them to the next event on Sep 27th. Christine will work on creating distribution/contribution boxes. May bring to Apple Pie Festival or other events.
 - Covered bridge steps - Commission will allocate up to \$60 for trash signage down by beach, Jesse will find signs. **Rick Mills motions to expend up to \$60; David Greenewalt seconds. Unanimous approval.** Operations and maintenance (O&M) document will be reviewed at the Sept 18th selectboard meeting. Christine will attend to answer questions regarding chemical controls, hopefully with Andrew Morrison available to provide more

detailed/technical information. Christine will follow up with Cory Ross to see if contractor going to finalize work on drainage system.

- Speakers/Seminars/Events - Monarch talk (Judy Fink) coming up this month on Sep 27th at the Grange. Lynn will arrange for BCTV and MC the event. Todd will provide tech support for the presentation. Lew will set up chairs. Ron Svec may get the state botanist Grace Glynn to come speak on "rare species in Dummerston" in October. Rick Mills will reach out for a possible game warden presentation in November. More details to follow.
- Sightings - Loads of deer eating acorns. Rabbits. Blue Heron on a woodshed. Blue Heron up near Bunker Farm. Same guy?
 - Next meeting: Thursday, October 10th at 6pm at the Town Office

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson