

Dummerston Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes 9/10/2026

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

Public attendees: Phil Goepp (technical consultant)

Called to order: 6:05 pm

- Administration:
 - Financial report – No report this month to review.
 - Previous meeting minutes – **Lew Teich makes motion to approve; David Greenewalt seconds. Unanimous consent.**
- New Initiatives:
 - Library – Bill will drop off *Lawns Into Meadows* and flyer at the library. Lynn suggests *When the Trees Came Back* as next book, will read over next couple of months and write brief review.
 - Land Conservation / Meadow Management – Bill shared information from WCNRCD talk on grassland birds given by Kate McCay and the Connecticut River Valley Grassland Bird Project. DCC discussed the lack of a town/state policy on roadside knotweed.
 - Connecticut River access visits – Lew Teich visited sites along Stickney Brook and the West River, picked up some trash but otherwise looking good. Phil and Christine will do a boat reconnoiter of Dummerston portion of Connecticut to check for trash and invasives.
 - Prospect Hill – David Greenewalt hiked the trail and reported that the cut-and-dab buckthorn treatment carried out last fall was effective. Ron will contact Longview about professional eradication of buckthorn monoculture on western side of the pasture. Once we have the information, Christine will schedule a PHBT meeting to approve any necessary expenditures. Work day set for October 11 from 10-12. Buckthorn blasters will be used again as well as a patch that will be girdled. Sandwiches and rubber gloves to be provided.
- Ongoing and Recurring Projects:
 - Speakers / Events – Possible forester panel on eco-ethical logging second half of November. Ron will reach out Dan Healey and Bill Gunther, Lynn will contact Sam Schneski and Andrew Morrison. Ron is working on a speaker, Isaac Bissell, to present a pollinator photography exhibit/event April 20-25, 2027. **Motion by Lew Teich to pay pollinator presenter \$300 for event; seconded by Bill Conley. Unanimous approval.**
 - Newsletter – Monthly is published.
 - Website / email listing – Phil's filter (the phil-ter) is successfully weeding out spam and troll sign-ups. Discussed linking Northern Woodlands to favorite sites (Phil).
 - Views – Bill will write article summarizing formal land conservation process and resources

- Covered Bridge – Commission contemplating additional signage concerning noise etiquette.
- Sightings: Ron Svec had loads of monarchs in his saved, unmowed milkweed. Jesse Wagner came across thousands of common nighthawks swooping through the Brattleboro skies. Lew Teich came up with 30 lbs of Chicken of the Woods mushrooms. Lynn Levine had 24 turkeys! Top that.

Adjourned: 7:54pm

- Next meeting: Thursday, October 8th at 6pm at the Town Office

Respectfully submitted, Todd Davidson
