

Town of Londonderry
Conservation Commission
March 11, 2021

DRAFT MINUTES

- 1) Call Meeting to Order 5:15
Present: Irwin Kuperberg, Helen Hamman, Jane MacKugler, Sunny Wright, Stephen Swinburne, Mark Wright
- 2) Additions/Deletions to Agenda: Irwin added discussion item regarding the Vermont Non-game Wildlife Fund.
- 3) Approval of the February 2021 Draft of Minutes: Helen Hamman made a motion to approve February 2021 Draft of Minutes. Jane MacKugler seconded it. Motion approved unanimously
- 4) Old Business
 - A) West River Trail historical signage update: We are waiting for Spring to renew our discussion with Historical society and Sharon Crossman of West River Trail Association about possible signage at Depot and/or at Trailhead.
 - B) Upcoming Webinars
 - i. What about those Wily Coyotes? Mach 18, 2021 7PM : Advertisements and posters have been distributed. The presenter Chris will send Irwin invoice for the speaker fee.
 - ii. Mill Pond Ecology and Hydrology April 8, 2021. Talk will focus on the ecosystem of the pond and related river hydrology, including impact of the dam. Irwin has informed the Londonderry Select Board . We still need a someone who can give a brief talk about the history and construction of the pond. Mark will talk with Monk Ogden, who did a talk on river courses several years ago, to see what he knows.
 - iii. Vernal Pools April 29, 2021 T 7 PM given by Steve Faccio of Vermont Ecostudies , who will present a virtual videotaped visit to a pool with underwater shots etc. as well as host a Q&A.
 - iv. Vermont Lady Beetle Atlas May 27, 2021 7PM given by Julia Pupko
 - v. VCE staff Project to photograph all VT mammals - TBD
 - vi. Bird Count TBD with Ruth Stewart
- 5) New Business
 - A) Conservation Camp: Discussion about soliciting donations to our Conservation Fund (to which the town allocated \$1000 at the last town meeting according to the Town Report) for a scholarship to a Londonderry middle school student who wants to attend The State Conservation Camp for a week during Summer 2021. Jane will contact Flood Brook about possible applicants and how to offer our scholarship.
 - B) Changes to West river Sampling Program: Debbie O'Leary has again volunteered to conduct the sampling this summer. State is reducing amount of sites for organic pollution testing, but we are recommending several sites on the West river and under the Bridge in Landgrove for ecoli testing .
 - C) Resignation of Kathie Stone: We will purchase a copy of The Vermont Almanac for her to be given along with a letter which Irwin will write and which we will all sign. Mark will find her mailing address but we would ideally like to give it to her in person at a dinner in her honor.
 - D) Light pollution: Sharon Crossman sent Irwin the relevant section of the latest bylaw revisions that address light pollution and Irwin followed up with additional questions.
 - E) Vermont Non Game Wildlife Fund receives matching federal grants. Vermont residents can direct a donation on their state income tax form. Irwin has posted info about this to the town Facebook page.
 - F) Mark noted that a large number of ash trees had been cut down along Brooks road off Middletown Road. We will look into who is performing the cutting.

G) Steve offered to clean out Bluebird nest boxes which LCC put up on Prouty Land

- 6) Wildlife Sightings: Remnants of deer taken by coyote on the West River - confirmed by Kyle Isherwood; Grackles, Redwing Blackbirds, Robin, Hermit Thrush (on sumac), Cedar Waxwings and Chickadees; racoon; hawk carrying one of the turkeys from Rugg Valley property on its back and remnants of turkey feathers, legs, etc. left by other attacks by hawk.

Next meeting on April 15.