

HARDWICK CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Draft Minutes
Meeting of November 19, 2019

Present: Rachel Kane, Ken Davis, Judith Ruskin, Ben Pougner, Norma Wiesen, Renaud Demers, Jerry Schneider, Judy Bellairs
Absent: Nicole Davignon
Guest: Nancy Kellog

Minutes from the September and October meetings were approved.

By-law discussion. Norma handed out an example of by-laws for review. Norma and Ken will get together to develop a draft of by-laws to bring back to the commission for revision/approval at a future date.

Forest planning discussion. Motion that the Commission request to be involved in future meetings regarding the forest planning effort for the Hazen Union forest. Passed.

Winter events discussion. There is a winter market at Hazen and it might be possible to coordinate with a Conservation Commission event, possibly in the auditorium. A number of people have suggested Jens Hilke, a Conservation Planner with the State of Vermont, as a speaker for an event. Judy will check with him to see what topics he could speak about.

The author of the book Wetland, Woodland, Wildland will be at the Galaxy on November 30. The Conservation Commission might consider publicizing the event to encourage residents to attend. Ben will check with Galaxy about this.

Grants. Rachel shared a map showing parcels of town land and discussed the possibility of grants from the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program. The deadline is in January. Rachel and Jerry (hopefully with the help of Lucien Avery) will work on drafting a grant proposal.

It was mentioned that we should keep track of our volunteer time so that it can be used as an in-kind contribution to grant requests.

Ben suggested we might want to look into what the Caledonia County Conservation District does and whether we can get involved.

River committee. Renaud got information about who to contact about erosion along the Lamoille near Route 16. Rachel will make contact and get an update on the status of any remediation plans.

Budget. The Select Board will discuss a budget line item for the Commission at Thursday's meeting. Motion to request \$500. Passed. Judy will attend the meeting. (Note: The Town Business Manager later advised that we did not need to attend and that she would inform the

Select Board of our request.)

Action items:

Rachel: Contact Eric R. requesting that the Commission be included in forest planning meetings; find out status of any remediation plans for Lamoille erosion.

Ben: Contact Galaxy about promoting Wetland, Woodland, Wildland event.

Judy: Contact Jens Hilke to ask about possible speaking engagement

Norma/Ken: Work on by-laws

Rachel/Jerry: Work on grant application

Next meeting: **December 17 @ 5:30** (Christmas cookies or other refreshments welcome)

Adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Submitted by Judy Bellairs