

**HARDWICK CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES**

**Monday, March 11, 2024 @ 5:00pm @ Memorial
Building
and remotely**

**Present: Kathy Hemmens, Rachel Kane, Ben Pougner,
Jerry Schneider, Norma Wiesen, Lucy Zendzian
Guests: Jed Feffer (Stewards of the Greensboro
Watershed), Emily Finnegan (Caledonia Country Natural
Resources Conservation District)
Absent: Ken Davis**

1. Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm.
2. Minutes of February 13, 2024 approved.
3. **Jed Feffer** described the riparian restoration work of the Stewards of the Greensboro Watershed. The SGW is looking particularly at the Lamoille River in Greensboro Bend and the tributaries of Caspian Lake. Their work centers on assessment of buffer zones on either side of a river—(looking at vegetation/vegetation variety/canopy/development (paths, structures/etc.)
Their primary interest is in plantings with the goal of helping promote a natural flow of the river. SGW is using Stream Wise, a project of the Lake Champlain Basin Program (Lauren Kenness), for help and resources.
4. **Emily Finnegan** described how groups like the Conservation Commission could use her organization for work on riparian buffer zones:
 - a. Emily offered to give advice about approaching landowners who might be interested in riparian flood mitigation/repair/ etc. She emphasized that her organization's efforts are to improve waterway health and function, not necessarily repair landowner properties.

- b. The Caledonia Co NRCD could find grants for trees (“Trees for Streams”) and for labor for planting
- c. She suggested educational events for the public to teach about healthy waterways, suggesting an event using a “stream table” for this purpose.

5. Planning for NRI roll-out Sat. March 23 @2:00 @ Memorial Bldg

- a. **Rachel** has arranged for HTV to film the event
- b. **Rachel** will arrange for equipment for Matt: projector/screen/computer?
- c. **Lucy** will contact Matt to see what he needs and how folks can access a copy of the NRI
- d. **Lucy, Rachel, Ben** will co-ordinate to provide cider/cookies/ etc.
- e. **Norma** will provide tablecloth/cups/napkins/etc. and bring sandwich board/staple gun for an outside poster
- f. **Lucy** will bring a copy of the poster for the sandwich board
- g. **Norma** will continue FPF advertising and get an article in the Gazette
- h. **Lucy, Ben and Rachel** will put up posters

6. Planning for Tracking Event w/ Jonathan Shapiro Sat. March 30 @ 2:00 @the Hardwick Trails

- a. **Lucy** will get a check cut to present to Jonathan at the event
- b. **Norma** will advertise on FPF
- c. **Lucy and Kathy** will put up posters

7. Financial Policies adopted (Motion by **Rachel**/Second by Jerry/unanimously approved) See Attachment

- 8. Jerry** tendered his resignation from the HCC but will help with the Coin Drop. The Board regretfully accepted his resignation and thanks him for his many contributions to our work.

9. The Town Business Manager has posted a notice to FPF about vacancies on the HCC Board. **Norma** will prepare handouts seeking applicants for distribution at the NRI event.
10. Sherry Lussier knows the HCC wants a table at Spring Festival. **Rachel** can provide a canopy.
11. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Next regular Meeting on Monday, April 15 @ 5:00pm @ Memorial Bldg.

Submitted by Norma Wiesen, Secretary

Hardwick Conservation Commission

Financial Policies

Responsibilities of the Commission Treasurer: The Treasurer is responsible for working with the Hardwick Business Manager to track Commission revenues and expenditures and to report to the Commission the status of the finances on a quarterly basis. The Treasurer will meet on a quarterly basis with the Business Manager to reconcile the accounts and prepare the report for the Commission members.

Payment for Commission-sponsored events: Each member of the Commission is authorized to expend up to \$150 for incidental expenses related to Commission events and accompanying publicity, provided the items to be purchased are authorized by the Commission during its monthly meeting. The member must provide the receipt(s) for items purchased to the Hardwick Business Manager and provide a copy of the receipt to the Commission Treasurer. Items purchased on member credit cards, checks or cash will be reimbursed by the Town upon presentation of the receipts.

Honoraria for Speakers at Commission Events: The Commission is charged with engaging the proposed speaker(s) is authorized to offer an honorarium of \$150.00. Should the speaker require or request a higher honorarium, a Commission member will bring the issue to the full Commission for a decision. When making arrangements for the event, the member will ask the Town Business Manager to cut an honorarium check, pick it up and have it ready to present to the speaker at the event. The speaker(s) will provide a receipt for payment which will be submitted to the Hardwick Business Manager and to the Commission Treasurer.