

**Town of Hardwick
Hardwick, VT 05843**

HARDWICK CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2025 @ Memorial Bldg.

Note: *Prior to the regular meeting, Tracy Martin and Geoff Fehrs reported on the Downtown Partnership tree-planting project. HCC agreed to take 30 soil samples required for the project. This work should be completed within the next 3 weeks.*

Present: Tyler Buswell, Lesa Cathcart, Kathy Hemmens, Rachel Kane, Ben Pougner, Norma Wiesen, Lucy Zendzian

Absent: Ken Davis

Guest: Kristin Leahy, Hardwick Zoning and Floodplain Administrator

1. Meeting called to order at 5:00pm
2. Minutes of March 10, 2025 meeting approved
3. **Kathy** (treasurer) reported the HCC Budget balance as of March 31, 2025 is \$3696.60.
4. **Kristin** presented a map of the Town prepared by the ANR showing current land use categories and asked the HCC to make changes where errors occur and propose areas that should be considered for conservation status. The map is spurred by the requirement to update the State's Climate Action plan every 5 years. The new plan will incorporate requirements of Act 181 which supersedes Act 250. **Lucy** volunteered to send NVDA our Ecological Resources Inventory for the information it contains.

5. **Lucy** reported on new guidelines for grant seeking supplied by **Casey Rowell, Town Business Manager**.

6. After discussion, members decided to set aside **June 2 at 5:30 in the Memorial Building as a Special Meeting** about how to use the Ecological Resources Inventory to guide our public events schedule. Members met remotely with **Jens Hilke, VT Fish and Wildlife**, on March 27. Jens provided guidelines for this planning session. **Kathy** reported progress in gathering information about the Town-owned forest lands bordering Hardwick Lake, on Buffalo Mountain and in East Hardwick. **Kathy** will meet with **Emily Potter, Caledonia County Forester** about forest management plans.

7. **Springfest**

- a. **Lucy** registered the HCC for a table and a float.
- b. **Tyler** suggested we have 10 hard copies of our NRI to give to interested folks. Motion made and passed to authorize **Norma** to spend the funds necessary to get the copies from Spark.
- c. **Ben** reported that he has ordered 36 potted anise hyssop plants from Peggy Newfield. **Rachel** will provide 15-20 New England asters. **Tyler** has secured a donation of seeds from High Mowing Seeds.
- d. **Rachel** reported that **Barnabus Kane** is designing a 3x5 sign with an HCC logo that may be ready for the table. **Norma** will make a poster advertising the “plants by

donation” and make flyers advertising the Let’s Go Fishing event June 28 at Eligo Lake. **Lesa** and **Rachel** will supply various handouts.

e. Tyler has made a framework for the float’s bird. **Lucy, Rachel** and **Tyler** will finish the creation!

f. Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Submitted by Norma Wiesen, Secretary

Next Regular Meeting: May 12, 2025 @ 5:30 @ Memorial Bldg.

Special Planning Meeting: June 2, 2025 @ 5:30 @ Memorial Bldg

(long-term planning of public events, using the Ecological Resources Inventory)