

**Town of Hardwick**  
**Hardwick, VT 05843**

## **Hardwick Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, July 14, 2025 Memorial Bldg. (Draft)**

**Present:** Tyler Buswell, Lesa Cathcart, Kathy Hemmens, Norma Wiesen, Lucy Zendzian

**Absent:** Ben Pougner

**Guest:** Peter Moskovitz (prior to official meeting)

1. Meeting called to order 5:15
2. Minutes of June 9, 2025 and June 24, 2025 approved
3. **Lucy** reported that the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions wants to hold a regional meeting here in October. Lucy proposes we meet at the HCA. More information to follow.
4. **Kathy** gave a quarterly financial update: As of June 30, the HCC had \$3737.84 in our account. A \$100.00 reimbursement to **Ben** for plants purchased for the Spring Festival is still outstanding. On July 1, the Town will deposit their annual **allotment** to the HCC of \$500.00.
5. Discussion about the Selectboard's approval of a motion for the Town to accept ownership of the 315 acres on Buffalo Mountain currently on the market, if funds for purchase can be obtained. The Trust for Public Lands and the Northern Rivers Land Trust are heavily involved in guiding this project. The HCC will play a strong role. **Lucy** recommended members be thinking about fund-raising possibilities and citizens who might want to take part in a future committee to plan for the uses of this land.
6. **Norma** distributed reports from the May 23 meeting of the Jackson Dam Feasibility Study Committee (headed by Emily Finnegan, Manager of the Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District). The work of gathering data about the river and the dam is underway and will continue through the fall.

7. **Les**a reported that the June 28 Let's Go Fishing event at Eligo was a success, drawing 10 participants.
  8. **Lucy** reported that the Hardwick Downtown Partnership tree-planting project has added more trees to its goal, requiring more soil sampling. Tree planting is scheduled for fall.
  9. Discussion about the NRI Outreach Project (arranging public events to highlight and educate about the findings of the Natural (Ecological) Resources Inventory).
    - A. **Kathy** will contact Emily Potter, Lamoille County forester, about leading a walk to explore forests and connectivity.
    - B. **Norma** will contact Jens Hilke, Conservation Planner, VT Fish and Wildlife Dept., about names of folks from the Dept. who might lead walks and/or talks.
    - C. **Lucy** agreed to lead a Geology Walk.
    - D. **Tyler** suggested Emily Brodsky, former Sterling College ecology professor, might lead walks/talks.
    - E. **Les**a will contact Johanna Laggis about a walk on her property.
  10. Meeting adjourned at 6:30.
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Submitted by Norma Wiesen, Secretary

**Next regular meeting: Monday, Aug. 11, 2025 @ 5:00pm @ Memorial Bldg.**