

Hardwick Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2023, 4:30PM

Present: Rachel Kane, Ken Davis, Jerry Schneider, Ben Pougner, Lucy Zendzian, Eric Rosenthal, Kathy Hemmens

Absent: Norma Wiesen

Call to Order : The meeting was called to order at 4:35. The meeting was held outdoors as the Memorial Building was closed in honor of the federal holiday.

Tour of Hazen Union property: The members walked to the large plot of land adjacent to W. Church Street and the Rail Trail that is owned by Hazen Union High School. The Committee viewed the property at the suggestion of Emily Lanxner who wishes the Commission to consider working with the school to develop alternate plantings to the mown lawn that the school currently maintains. After viewing the property and discussing alternative plantings and uses, the Committee agreed to invite Emily to a future meeting to explain her proposals for the property. Members of the Commission will also speak with the Hazen Athletic Director and other Hazen staff to determine what, if any, use the school makes of the land, and if they might consider allowing some or all of it to become a meadow or be used for such community purposes as a community garden.

Review of “Let’s Go Fishing” and “Autumn Walk with Matt Peters:”

Commission members reported that 19 youth and adults participated in the fishing event and that there were 12 to 14 participants in Matt Peter’s guided walk along the Lamoille river in E. Hardwick. Members present at the events felt that they were well received and very successful events. Discussion followed on the desirability of engaging Matt Peters to conduct other events following the publication of the Inventory Report in late winter. Commission members agreed that we did not want the report to just gather dust on a shelf, but to be used to deepen community interest in and knowledge of the natural world in and surrounding Hardwick.

Election of Commission Co-Chair: Lucy Zendzian volunteered to serve as Co-Chair of the Commission. Following a motion to approve her as Co-Chair made by Ken Davis and seconded by Rachel Kane, she was approved in a unanimous vote.

Commission Social Event: Commission members will gather at the Cork and Fork on November 30th at 5:30PM for a post-Thanksgiving holiday get together. Jerry will let the restaurant management know to expect our group.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hemmens

Next regular meeting: Monday, November 13, 2023, 5PM at the Memorial Building