

JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2019

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Dean Locke, Jackie Stanton
Absent: Denise Krause, Noel Dodge, Eric Nuse, Jared Jasinski
Guests: Kelly Vandorn, Jacob Vandorn

CONSERVATION RESERVE FUND

Dean presented a standout analysis of the fund data from the surveys. Of the 87 returned surveys, most responders considered preserving wildlife habitat to be very important, followed closely by hiking trails, wetland protection, rivers and streams, and prevention of urban sprawl. 67% of respondents either would or probably would favor a small tax increase that would fund the fund.

Dean will print and email the info to us.

TRAIL BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Walter remains estranged from the project. The Trustees and Selectboard will look into whether Act 250 must be involved; Nat Kinney will represent them.

MCCUIN'S ISLAND

There is a process to be followed in order to make a case for changing the campground. First, Noel must write a summary of Eric Sorenson's report so that we may present it to the Selectboard.

CONSERVATION RESERVE FUND

Has anyone any fundraising thoughts? Not tonight. Let's make that a winter project.

MARCH GLADNESS

MG will start on March 1 and go for four Sundays from 2-3:30 at the library. Since we have some funds, we can hire some experts for programs. We're not convinced that another outdoor session is advisable since previous ones haven't been well attended.

Noel had agreed to do a program on I-Naturalist but we agreed that birds would be a better draw. We'll discuss that with him.

Jackie knows a mushroom aficionado who might be willing to talk shrooms. She'll ask him about it.

Sue suggested Aaron Marcus could do his talk on rare Vermont plants that he presented to the Hardy Plant Club. She'll pursue it.

UPCOMING BUDGET

What do we need? Kiosks at Gomo and Prindle. In the spring we'll either get volunteers or hire someone to build them and will follow the plan used for the Journey's End kiosk. Jackie will ask Cal if he has the plan.

We can use more signage at Journey's End and at Prindle.

POT LUCK MEETING

The next meeting will be on December 10, which is of course the potluck extravaganza. It'll be at the Library at 6:00; setup will be at 5:30. Let's send personal invitations to those folks who volunteered to help with projects this year: Scott and Kim, Kyle, Nat, Meg and Phil, Walter.

MISC

- First thing in the spring, we'll shovel chips onto the Journey's End trail and flag it.
- After the holidays, Sue will get the Nature Trail at Journey's End organized and assemble seasonal pictures for the kiosk.

TO-DO LIST

- Dean will send CRF results to us.
- Noel will write a summary paragraph of the Sorenson report.
- Sue will create and send invitations for the December meeting.
- All members will come up with fundraising ideas for the CRF.
- Jackie will talk to her mushroom-loving friend.
- Sue will contact Aaron Marcus.

Adjourned at 9:00.

Next meeting is on December 10 at the Library at 6:00. Come with goodies! Setup is at 5:30.
Submitted by Sue Lovering, Secretary.