

JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 13, 2018

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Noel Dodge, Dean Locke, Jackie Stanton

Absent: Denise Krause, Eric Nuse, Hillary Emick

On leave: Laura Branca

Guests: Kelly Vandorn, Jacob Vandorn

The September and October minutes were approved.

BUDGET

Our balance is 3437.63. We all need to think about things we need and email ideas and estimated dollar amounts to Lois before the December meeting. Ideas already mentioned for future expenditures were signage and educational materials for kiosks and budgeted money for a natural resource survey of McCuin Island.

SITE STEWARDS FOR VRC PROPERTIES

Lois handed out a description of the duties of site stewards, which includes mowing paths, litter pickup, and overall monitoring. It was decided that Jackie will be the Journey's End steward, Dean will monitor Beard's, and Noel will watch out for McCuin's.

MCCUIN ISLAND

UVM Student Hunter Garland is making a recreational map of the Lamoille that's similar to the Paddler's, and would like input. It remains to be seen what will be included about the island.

Regarding the camping issue: Lois suggested that we slow down the process of developing camping and perhaps people will see the value of leaving the island alone. We need a piece that explains why there should not be privies and camping there. In order to make that happen, we can provide a summary of site conditions for each season that highlight sensitive issues and send it to the River Conservancy. Noel will do this and send the report to Lois. He can have an overview drafted for the December meeting, which Lois can bring to the Selectboard.

We'll shoot for a June date for a survey.

It would also help if we could identify alternate locations.

PLANNING FOR FOREST FRAGMENTATION SURVEY

The Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions is asking for a response to an Act 171 survey. Lois passed out paper copies.

PRINDLE

Archery classes are going well there.

We will mark the three trails there. Lois will email possible dates when the time is right.

The Library will be loaning out snowshoes this winter, so we can possibly expect more use of Prindle. Sue will leave maps of Journey's End and Prindle at the Library.

APPLE TREE RELEASE AT GOMO, AGAIN

Maybe December?

BEARD'S KIOSK

Dean will install Lois' new cork board on the kiosk there.

CONSERVATION RESERVE FUND

Hey Eric, you promised a rough draft for the November meeting! Dean was going to help! How about for the December meeting?

MISC

- The advantages of having blinky red lights on poles at Journey's End rather than trail flagging was briefly debated and found wanting. We'll stick with flagging.
- The next meeting will be the Holiday Buffet Extravaganza! Bring yumyums! Sue and Lois will set up and provide plates, napkins, and glasses. It'll start at 6:00.

TO-DO LIST: (This is a new feature for folks who don't read the minutes!!)

- Everybody will send Lois ideas for future expenses
- Sue will deliver trail maps to the Library
- Dean will hang the cork board at Beard's
- Noel will draft an overview of McCuin Island camping issues/sensitivities
- Eric will do a rough draft for the Reserve Fund protocol
- Lois will suggest dates for trail marking at Prindle

Adjourned at 8:25. The next meeting is on Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at 6:00, at the Library.

Submitted by Sue Lovering, Secretary.

DRAFT