JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 10, 2019

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Noel Dodge, Eric Nuse, Jared Jascinski,

Absent: Denise Krause, Jackie Stanton, Dean Locke

Guests: Kelly Vandorn, Jacob Vandorn, Ben Vandorn, Brian Vandorn, Honorary Member Eben

Dodge, Kyle, Olive, and Pepper Nuse-Mahnke.

The October and November minutes were approved.

POTLUCK HEAVEN

This was the annual potluck Christmas meeting, which seems to get yummier every year. Everything was picture perfect, and Eric's barbecued deer shanks got rave reviews. To those folks who were on the invitation list and couldn't make it, we missed you and thank you for lending a hand on various work projects in 2019.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2020/21 budget is due by the end of December. What we want to do during the next budget cycle includes mowing at Gomo twice this year, as parts of it were not done the last time.

It was suggested that, since Cal Stanton isn't able to build the kiosks for Gomo and Prindle, we can hire Brian Raulinaitis, who did such a swell job on the Journey's End bridge. They will be the same design as the Journey's End kiosk, though not necessarily as big.

Jared suggested putting bee mycelium feeders all over town. They would have to be filled at intervals. We could have an educational program around them.

Sue wants to print pictures and informative pieces of plants/animals/fish to hang on the Beard's and JE kiosks seasonally.

MARCH GLADNESS

Here's the schedule so far: March 8 will be Jackie's friend, Mushroom Guy. Aaron Marcus has semi-agreed. Eric suggested Dave Brown, who could do a slide show about northern Vermont paddling. He'll inquire. Noel will talk about I Naturalist. (Hey Noel, maybe you could do something about birds? "Birds? NO!!")

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

It'll be on Saturday, December 28. Noel will facilitate and will ask Susan Tinker to post feeder count information sheets on the town website.

COMMUNITY VALUES PROJECT

Eric will talk with the principal of the elementary school about setting a date to start the project He'll put together an informational list and send it out to us.

COUNTY FORESTER

Rick Dyer will join us at the January meeting to discuss the management plan at Gomo Town Forest. Eric suggested setting a time with Rick to walk and mark the Gomo boundaries. We could use the same markers used by the state. Noel offered to digitize the Gomo boundaries at work.

FUNDRAISING PROJECTS FOR CONSERVATION RESERVE FUND

Three of the donated bird prints need frames and mats. Sue and Lois will go through their many spare frames and see what they can find to fit.

Ideas to market and sell included Ebay, facebook, a raffle at March Gladness, and a beer night at Lois'. No decisions were reached.

NEW NIGHT

The motion was made and passed to change the CC's meeting night to the second Thursday of each month, starting with February.

MISC:

- Kelly Vandorn makes a mean pot of Swedish meatballs!
- Full disclosure: That's a wild shot at Nuse-Mahnke. You knew that.
- Noel, Denise, Sue, and Dean will ignore the slightly derogatory comments about their Beard's masterpiece of backwoods carpentry, aka the kiosk.

TO-DO LIST:

- Noel will write a short statement summing up Eric Sorenson's McCuin Island report.
- Eric will ask his friend about doing a March Gladness stint.
- Sue will follow up with Aaron Marcus re: March Gladness.
- Eric will talk to David Manning about the Community Values Project and send us a sheet.

Adjourned at 9:00; cleanup took longer.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at the Library at 6:45. Submitted by Sue Lovering, Secretary