

JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 8, 2021

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Dean Locke, Carrie Watson, Denise Ashman, Peter Hammond, Jackie Stanton

Absent: Jared Jasinski, Noel Dodge

Guests: Brian Vandorn, Kelly Vandorn, Lisa Crews, Johnna Keefe, Sophia Berard

The June minutes were approved.
We met at the Municipal Building.

RACIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE REQUEST

Sophia Berard, of the Racial Justice Committee, requested that we allow them to post the inclusivity statement, racial statement, and a picture on all of our kiosks. After an hour and 10 minutes of discussion, the CC passed a motion to post the inclusivity statement, but not the rest. It was pointed out that the Prindle and Beard's kiosks are small and that our priority is to hang educational material. Sophia plans to visit again when they have their poster finished.

PLANTING REQUEST FROM RECREATION

Due to spending so much time on the previous discussion, Lisa Crews was unable to stay long enough to present her project at Old Mill Park. Denise is liaising with her and informed us about it, though technically our part (if we have a part) is on hold for now. Lisa wishes to establish a pollinator garden along two slopes at the park and wants our help planting it. Apparently, they don't know about the cap on the field and the mandate against digging there. Denise will follow up with Lisa and report back.

BEARD'S

Sam Brakeley and Jeff Donnell, aka, Hermit Woods Trailbuilders LLC, built the new handicapped accessible trail in two days and finalized it on a third day after rain had hardened the surface. They did a great job and only two saplings were removed.

Not so great was the mowing job done by the road crew: too much was taken off despite Lois' meeting with foreman Hugh Albright to discuss our needs.

We are all in favor of adding a wheel chair accessible picnic table at the end of the new trail. Dean found a plan for one and Lois will look into finding somebody to build one.

The town will get a new sign to replace the stolen one and will get a handicapped-reserved parking space sign.

We can have an opening event when the signage is installed.

GOMO

The kiosk components are still in Dean's back yard. He'll order the necessary lumber from RK Miles and will contact Norm Larow regarding delivery on site.

Rick Dyer suggested that brush hogging should be done every 3-5 years, which would be now, especially since it was never finished the last time. Sue will research brush hoppers for September or October.

MISC

- Still no word from Emily Potter. It's been 8 months.

- Keegan Tierney still hasn't heard from Brian Story or Hugh Albright about the proposed parking area on Coddington Hollow Rd. It's been 6 months. He asks that we get the town moving.
- Elise Schader sends word that the state is developing new tools, videos, and a website about community planning.
- A moose was spotted recently strolling up School Street.
- Lois showed us the inaugural copy of Vermont Almanac, which has been sent to the chairs of all Vermont Conservation Commissions. If you want one of your own, it can be had at bookstores and online. It costs \$30 plus \$5.50 for shipping and can be ordered from vtalmanac.org. They only take Mastercard. Irritating and very un-Vermont, I'd say.

Adjourned at 8:30.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, September 9, at 6:30. Location to be announced.

Submitted by Sue Lovering, Secretary.