

JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 13, 2022

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Noel Dodge, Dean Locke, Denise Ashman, Peter Hammond, Carrie Watson, Jackie Stanton  
Absent: Jared Jasinski

The December minutes were approved.

#### MISSION STATEMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

We're agreed that the CC should stay informed as to what's going on in town and be proactive in attending selectboard meetings when any kind of development arises. It's not necessary for the whole group to attend every month, unless an issue demands our presence. We need to make our thoughts clear and reinforce that we will stay involved, in order to avoid outcomes like that of McCuin's Island.

To keep track of other groups' plans, regular reading of their minutes is informative but many groups don't post them.

The new mission statement says it all:

The Conservation Commission's mission is stewardship of public lands; advocating for the protection of all of Johnson's natural resources for present and future generations. We endeavor to strengthen relationships between the people of Johnson and our natural environment, to instill a shared responsibility and awareness within the community for the protection and preservation of the environment, and to achieve a balance with present and future responsible growth. The Commission's charge is to advise the Select Board, Planning Commission, Trustees, special interest groups, and individuals on matters concerning Johnson's lands and natural resources.

Request for Process: The Johnson Conservation Commission formally requests that the Select Board, Planning Commission, and Trustees acknowledge our role as stewards of Johnson's natural resources and lands. We request notice of future development and project proposals. Contact the Johnson Conservation Commission via the Town website: [townofjohnson.com](http://townofjohnson.com)

#### GAME CAMERA PROJECT

We have a camera. Dean is babysitting it. (Dean: "It's sitting on my gun cabinet." Peter: "Is it picking up any wildlife?" Sue: "You bet it is, Peter.")

Lois will speak to Jeanne Engel about how we go about loaning it through the library. Would the borrower be responsible for batteries and card? Otherwise, we could set it up on one of our properties.

#### CODDING HOLLOW REPAIRS, UPDATED

Or not. Green Mountain Club's Keegan Tierney told Lois he's never had a response from Brian Story about the proposed repairs to the road and parking at the Waterville side of Gomo. He finally stopped trying after a few attempts, so nothing has been done. They put signage in place. Keegan will come to the CC's April meeting to talk about planning at Gomo Town Forest.

MISC:

- Jackie suggested doing a +/-5-minute natural resource spot on WLVB
- The bat houses have fallen down at the Arboretum. The unanimous consensus is that it wasn't our craftsmanship; it was the wind's fault. We'll re-build them in the spring.

Adjourned at 8:30. The next meeting is on Thursday, February 10, at 6:30 at the municipal building. Wear a mask.

Minutes recorded by Sue Lovering, Secretary