

JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Deane Locke, Noel Dodge, Peter Hammond, Jackie Stanton

Absent: Jared Jasinski, Denise Ashman, Aurora River

The August minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our bank balance wasn't available. Unlike other years, Lois hasn't yet received a printout of expenditures for the fiscal year '22-'23. Lois will follow up.

POLLINATOR PROJECT

Noel cut the grass at the Wescom location in preparation for the tilling, which has been done. Noel sent a picture. A second tilling is to be done but when is unknown. Bee the Change hasn't provided any plan.

BAT HOUSE INSTALLATION UPDATE

No plans were set to install the houses that were to be done in July. The bad news is that the Wescom set is tipped. The good news is that Noel isn't worried about them falling over.

GOMO

Noel and Dean pole pruned pesky branches hanging over the access roads to the fields so brush hogging could be done. Noel showed the fields to Ryan Spear, who provided an estimate to brush hog. He plans to do the job when the woods dry up, as they're far too muddy now.

Kiosk: Peter priced two 9' 4x4 cedar posts and will pick them up for the kiosk. They can be stored at Noel's.

Motions were made and passed to spend up to \$1800 on brush hogging at Gomo and to spend \$30 for two cedar posts for the kiosk.

Noel reports that the roads on the Waterville side are getting beaten up by ATVs.

And that we're losing the fields because saplings are growing in fast. We need to dedicate a day to apple tree release. We've been saying that for years. There are lots of apples this year.

PLOT ROAD

It has been ditched for the first time and that has affected the entrance to Prindle. Dean will ask Jason if they can improve it.

BEARD'S RECREATION

Peter replaced the falling-apart post at the end of the stairs with a square cedar post. He suggested rounding off the corners if somebody can provide a battery powered tool to do it. We decided to replace the seven remaining posts next spring.

VAT VIDEO

The filming is done except for one last scene. It may be finished this week.

AUDUBON PRINTS

The question still remains as to how to find a value for them. Peter will pursue that question and report. There are 25 of them; most are framed.

AVCC MEETING

The Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions will hold their annual meeting via zoom on Thursday, October 19, from noon-1:00. Lois will present a 5 minute report about the updates to the EAB videos that were done with an AVCC Tiny Grant.

MISC

- Jackie shared a picture of a got-a-death-wish mouse that hung itself at her house. Just plain weird, or a commentary on the state of wildlife today?

Adjourned at 8:10

Submitted by Sue Lovering, Secretary

Next meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2023 at the temporary Library at the Masonic Temple, Pearl Street door