



MINUTES
Underhill Conservation Commission
February 12, 2018
Underhill Town Hall

Present: Betsy Chapek, Laurie Graham, Peter Hiskes, Karen McKnight, Nancy McRae, Dan Steinbauer

Absent: Amy Golodetz, Patrick Lamphere, Daphne Tanis

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen welcomed all and reviewed the agenda.
2. Public Comment: No person(s) were present for public comment.
3. Approval Minutes: Approval of 1/08/18 minutes.
4. Town Meeting Day UCC Table Preparations

Discussion: Brochures and poster materials, Coverage at UCC table, Calendar of UCC Events

Decisions: Print (1st Print) 30 Bear brochures (Nancy to order); Calendar cards (Nancy to order); Invasive species Dan will provide. Plan will be to set up on Monday morning; Coverage at UCC tables: Dan, Betsy, Karen, Nancy; Sign up for Invasive Species Program and Work Party volunteers

Calendar Dates: May 5th - Green-Up Day; June 2nd Plant Sale; Invasive Species TBD after discussions with E. Tapper (April 18 or 19, May 2 or 3rd?); Backyard Woods Program will be offered this fall through the Extension Service (Online).

5. Crane Brook Conservation District Management Plan

Discussion: The Solar proposal on the landfill is a concern: 1. Adequacy of the cap: Trucking machinery across the cap and panel fittings into the ground may cause disturbance of the PVC's below the cap. 2. Fencing: Any fencing may be a problem with wildlife movement through the area. On the other hand without fencing will there be issues with vandalism or injuries? 3. The creation of the CBCD was the result of dedicated individuals working together to plan for this conservation area. 4. Major concern that the solar panels would then lead to further wildlife habitat fragmentation.

Decision: Nancy will find research the right of ways in the CBCD, touch bases with Sherry Morin; Betsy and Nancy to contact Judy Bond and Rita St. Germain about the history of CBCD, the original plan, and timeline to approval by Town of Underhill Selectboard.

Section / Person Responsible:

Property description: – **Amy** from the CBCD forest assessment

Land Use History: **Nancy** to contract Nate and Irene

Current Land Uses: Used for Biking, hiking, horseback riding, walking, XC skiing, hunting, elementary/middle school field trips, town garage, old landfill (capped)

Ownership restrictions: **Karen** to ask Brian re restrictions on town property

Base Maps: **Peter** to contact Ethan Tapper for maps: Topography/ hydrology, hydrology/topography descriptions; Stands map and descriptions of stands

Next Steps:

Tour the proposed site of the solar panels and work with Underhill Energy Committee on a joint statement outlining the pros' and Con's

Request assistance from Ethan on inventory of trees and invasives.

Invite Judy Bond and Rita St. Germain to the next meeting.

6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 12, 2018, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Karen McKnight