

**MINUTES**  
**Underhill Conservation Commission**  
**December 10, 2018**  
**Underhill Town Hall**

Present: Karen McKnight, Daphne Tanis, Nancy McRae, Amy Golodetz, Dan Steinbauer, Betsy Chapek

Absent: Pat Lamphere, Peter Hiskes, Laurie Graham

Guest: none

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen welcomed all and introduced evening's agenda

Public Comment: none

Approval Minutes: October 2018 meeting minutes accepted as final with edits.

***Discussion:***

**Invasive Species Task Force**

Members discussed the following topics:

1. Need vision of what Invasive Species Tasks Force would look like i.e., Mission, Purview, and Tasks
2. Karen shared that The Range has its own Task Force for combatting them.
3. Noted Steve Webster created an excellent draft document defining the Invasive Species Task Force.
4. Karen to schedule meeting to discuss Task Force

**Town Plan Update**

Betsy, Amy, and Karen attended work-session with the Planning Commission . They shared the progress they've made in providing input to the Town Plan Natural resources chapter. Handout was missing 3 pages of 'Historical and Cultural' resources section.

Members determined we need to schedule a "work-party" in the future to help develop the town Survey for capturing input form town citizens.

## **Crane Brook Informational Discussion**

UCC members discussed petition circulating, to prevent the use of glyphosate spraying on Town lands. UCC discussed ways to educate the public about the seriousness of the impact of invasive species in the environment. Knotweed is a serious threat to the environment. UCC is making plans to provide educational venues on awareness and safety of interventional methods.

Betsy will inspect and try to right(re-install) the New Road entry Crane Brook Conservation District sign.

## **UCC Winter Educational Series**

Tom Rogers' presentation; 'Wildlife in a Changing Climate' has been well received in other Vermont communities. UCC members agreed the same would work for our Underhill community with emphasis on Invasive Species. Daphne to follow up with Tom Rogers.

## **Other**

Dan updated group about EAB (Emerald Ash Borer) State activities. He has developed a "drive-by" survey method that will work for surveying Underhill roads for Ash trees. We are reminded that it is only a matter of time before the EAB comes to Underhill. Dan to keep us updated.

## **Meeting Action Items**

1. Karen -
  - a. Contact Kurt Johnson about the Select Board's vision for the Invasive Species Task Force.
  - b. Email Cynthia Seybolt -Planning Commission, for time-line for Town Plan input to survey.
2. Daphne – Call Tom Rogers to set Winter education session – plan for February.
3. Future –
  - a. Set-up "Work-Party" session for developing questions for the Town Plan survey.
  - b. Develop education activities for JKW eradication and Invasive Species Task Force

Adjournment: The meeting was officially adjourned at 7: 55 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 14, 2019, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall

