

MINUTES
Underhill Conservation Commission
March 12, 2018
Underhill Town Hall

DRAFT

Present: Karen McKnight, Daphne Tanis, Nancy McRae, Amy Golodetz, Peter Hiskes, Laurie Graham, Pat Lamphere and Rita St. Germain

Absent: Dan Steinbauer

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen welcomed all and introduced evening's guest, Rita St. Germain, former member of the Conservation Commission, active during the creation of the Crane Brook Conservation District.

Public Comment: No person(s) were present for public comment other than, the Underhill Energy Commission presentation and discussion.

Approval Minutes: February 2018 minutes not presented for approval at this time.

Discussion:

UCC Organization – Reappointments

Nancy , Betsy and Peter will be reappointed as members Of the UCC. Reappointed members to send emails to Brian Bigelow. Karen to follow up with email.

Town Meeting Debrief

UCC Members were engaged in short discussion about meeting and how to proceed with Town Plan activity based on information gathered from meeting.

Invasive Species Education and Workshop Planning

Ethan Tapper, Vermont State Forester, has offered to do both a workshop/public event and a walkthrough. Proposed dates; May 3 or May 10. Concern regarding timing of when plants are presenting. Desire to combine both events to one day?

Knot Weed remedial work would require \$200 black tarp.

Ethan suggested Walkthrough should take place end of June to beginning of July.

Crane Brook Land Management Plan

“Our Job is to advocate for the Conservation District”

Suggestions and discussion points for input:

- Include Ethan Tappers assessment in appendix
- Intended to be a sanctuary
- Wildflowers planted
- Educational
- Have dogs on leash during fledgling season.
- No motorized vehicles
- Boulders at road by town garage
- Viewing benches at top of hill near Irish Settlement entrance
- Kiosk with rules /recommendations for use
- Change/develop trail entrance by New Road
- Honor past studies of animal corridors
- Recreation – Skiing, biking, horse-back riding, snow shoeing, hiking

Solar Proposal Strategy

Per Rita’s recommendation, and members agreed, the Solar Strategy is part of the Crane Brook Conservation Land Management Plan. Our job is to advocate for the Crane Brook Conservation District.

Fire Department Proposal Strategy

Discussion tabled; as Town is looking at other proposed locations.

Up Coming Underhill Conservation Commission Events:

March 26 – Warranted UCC working session/meeting at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

May 3 or May 10 (proposed) – General Public event with Ethan Tapper – Invasive Species

May 5 - Green-Up Day

Adjournment: The meeting was officially adjourned at 8: 18 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 9, 2018, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall

Respectfully submitted, Daphne Tanis, 03-13-18 draft