

MINUTES
Underhill Conservation Commission
May 14, 2018
Underhill Town Hall

Present: Karen McKnight, Daphne Tanis, Nancy McRae, Betsy Chapek, Dan Steinbauer, Amy Golodetz, Laurie Graham, Pat Lamphere

Absent: Peter Hiskes

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen welcomed all and introduced evening's guest, Steven Webster, Underhill Energy Commission.

Public Comment: None

Approval Minutes: April 2018 minutes were accepted as final with edits.

Discussion:

Green Up Day Debrief

Pat shared his experience. Nat Sullivan hadn't given Pat his update at this time. The following points were discussed:

1. Front Porch Forum comments. Apparently, some in community would like to have more town Involvement and Town Road side Pickup.
2. UCC members discussed possible involvement of other groups such as Boy Scouts, Free Masons, Mountain Mamas, and schools, etc.,
3. No road side pickup; Town too small, too many back roads and too expensive.
4. Next year strategies; posters in school, more FPF information and Free Masons.
5. Betsy to send Thank you letter to Jerri-Hill Hardware.

Underhill Plant Sale June 2

Conversation centered around Communication and action items/tasks. Volunteers to set-up at 8:15. Laurie suggested having a handout invitation to attend the next days Invasives Workshop at Crane Brook Conservation District. Pat discussed having 1770s seeds available. Nancy mentioned putting out a query for Chestnut Trees.

Underhill Plant Sale Action Items and assigned tasks

1. Karen to email Brian to post event on Town Website
2. Betsy to contact and connect with Jay Letterman
3. Daphne create Posters
4. Betsy and Laurie distribute and put up posters
5. Betsy to post on FPF
6. Daphne to put out sandwich board
7. Karen to bring Town cashbox
8. Amy to do clean up

June 3 – Invasives Workshop at Crane Brook Conservation District

Discussion topics and suggestions included: frequency of season cutting, methods for covering ground, dirt from Town Maintenance department. Steven suggested we put item in the CBCD Land Management Plan to remove plastic tarp at end-of-life.

Details

- Start at 10 a.m. Sunday June 3
- Meet at Parking by Town Garage
- Break – Lunch picnic onsite
- Bring tools, tarp, pegs

Action Items

- Dan to post to FPF and the Mountain Gazette
- Karen to ask Brian to post on Town Website
- Daphne to create Plant Sale handout reminder

Crane Brook Land Management Plan

Plan to be presented to at Select Board Town meeting May 22. Karen to get electronic copy of Town Trails Handbook to Amy to be included in CBCD LMP.

Energy Commission Meeting Debrief - Karen

Karen and Pat attended the Select Board meeting with the Energy Commission. Karen shared with The Energy Commission 4 succinct reasons for not developing a solar array on the Crane Brook Conservation District; 1. Wildlife habitat disturbance, 2. The integrity of the landfill, 3. The belief that the solar array would further degrade the area, and 4. The installation of the Solar array would set a precedent.

Amy volunteered to attend future Town Energy Commission meetings when available.

Abor Day Conference Debrief - Dan

Dan attended four workshops at the conference. He shared with UCC members, “Wise Trees” book and the author’s presentation. Dan also attended “Preparing Your Community for Emerald Ash Borer Disease”. Dan also discussed the many great features of the ‘BioFinder’ tool for planning for Wildlife Corridors.

Kurt Johnson attended and discussed purchasing land for corridors and setting up Town Land Trusts with Dan. Dan plans to attend ‘First Detector’ Webinar and will set up a ‘Detector Tree’ on his property.

Vermont Electric Coop Annual Meeting Debrief – Nancy

Nancy viewed video and shared information she learned from the VELCO speaker. Nancy recommended UCC members view video starting at 18 minutes.

Stream Signs Update

Amy will pick up signs next and schedule the installation of the signs with the Town Maintenance Department. Amy volunteered sending a FPF item to educate residents about the signs and that monies were raised from Plant Sale to purchase signs.

Other

Karen will not be available for UCC June monthly meeting. Amy to run meeting and send agenda to Brian.

Adjournment: The meeting was officially adjourned at 8: 12 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 11, 2018, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall

Final document Minutes UCC meeting 5-14-18 final

Respectfully submitted, Daphne Tanis, 05-17-18 draft V2.1