

**MINUTES**  
**Underhill Conservation Commission**  
**January 9, 2017**  
**Underhill Town Hall**

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

Absent: Amy Golodetz

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen reviewed the agenda and welcomed all. Asked members to respond to CCVA Survey Monkey.

Public Comment: Pat Sabalis made public comment at end of meeting.

Approval Minutes: December 12, 2016 minutes approved.

*Discussion:*

### **Signage Update**

With Amy absent, meeting had no update regarding installation of Crane Brook trail signs. Brooks signs are still awaiting input from the Town Road Department.

Karen will confirm with Town that it is acceptable to put up New Road sign.

### **Class II and Class III Wetlands Research**

Peter shared the research he had done based on the State of Vermont's definitions of the various classes of Wetlands. After considerable conversation, Nancy moved the Underhill Conservation Commission not petition the Town to change setbacks. Motion approved. All agreed to let stand; ULUDR adopted in 2011, 'Setbacks shall be at least 100 feet from all Class I wetlands (brooks), 50 feet from class II wetlands. The Class III wetlands setback is 25 feet'.

### **Spring Workshops Planning**

Black Bear Follow-on presentation/workshop – Daphne will get to Forrest Hammond on a spring workshop/presentation on Black Bears. Preferred time for such an event would be March.

No Update on Bird-friendly Maple Sugaring.

### **Town of Underhill Annual Report**

Karen shared her latest updates to the draft document for input to the town Annual report.

Last years' activities/events: Plant Sale, Green-up Day, EAB education and surveys, Black Bear Education, Replacing Crane Brook signs, and Lamoille Basin – Act 64 education and

involvement. List of possible future projects: Creating Brook signs, developing Crane Brook map signage, involvement with ACT 64 projects, developing an eco-friendly mowing schedule with the Town Road crew.

Members discussed with Karen what information and projects that should be included in the Town Report.

Pat and Dan to submit additional information to Karen, regarding UCC projects.

### **Public Comment**

Prior to adjournment, Pat Sabalis inquired into the status of the Jackson Hill conservation easement established 15-20 years ago. Karen agreed to researching the easement and its' status. Additionally she agreed to further explore the Underhill Conservation Commission's role in maintaining such easements.

Adjournment: The meeting was officially adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 13, 2017, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall

Respectfully submitted, Daphne Tanis, 1-9-17 **draft**