

NEW HAVEN, VERMONT  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025 at 7 PM

Call to Order: 7:00 P.M. via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84033029400?pwd=miNQBydjXK8VrNRVeXy2IIWk2c5BZe.1>

Meeting ID: 840 3302 9400

Passcode: 749844

In Attendance:

David Lewis

Susan Smiley

Polly Darnell

Marianne Eaton

**I. Review and approve the minutes** from 12/18/24.

Minutes approved.

**II. Naturalist talk/Book series.** Alexis Mychajliw talk in February. (Marianne)

[Naturalist Talk/Book Series](#)

- a. Contacted Alexis Mychajliw, Assistant Professor of Biology at Middlebury College to discuss the national wildlife survey. She has agreed to attend in-person with her student assistant, Max Zeltsar. Should Alexis be traveling for work, she assured us Max, a camera trapping expert, could speak.
  - Where will this be? Town Office Space. Clear with them first.
  - Who to contact to reserve the space? Pam, Town Clerk
  - Include other communities and conservation commissions?  
Addison County Resource web site. Contact Cornwall, Salisbury, Monkton, Bristol, Starksboro Conservation Commissions.
  - Send info to Addison Independent, Town Calendar, FPF, Library has a FB page.
  - This talk will not focus on how to set up game cameras but could be discussed in the Q&As.
  - 1.5 hours length.
  - \$250-\$300 compensation/Honorarium. Propose to approve an honorarium with an upper limit of \$400. Approved.
  - Can print posters at the town office. Might ask the Librarian.
  - Ask Alexis about her tech needs. Need to visit Pam for computer/tech presentation.

Alexis bio:

PhD.

Holocene ecology, diversity & global extinctions (HEDGE) lab

Assistant Professor, Dept of Biology & Environmental Studies Program

Research Associate, La Brea Tar Pits

Deputy Chair, Eulipotyphla. International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Small mammal specialist group.

Max bio:

Worked with Bristol's Conservation Commission camera trapping project.

- b. Choice 2: Jaclyn Comeau, Bear Biologist with VT Fish and Wildlife. Contacted via email and phone for March 19. No confirmation yet.
- c. Choice 3: Jens Hilke on Bobcat/Coyote  
Will contact soon if Jaclyn does not respond.  
We will extend the Armchair series to April 16.
- d. Choice 4: Ethan Tapper, Forester and Author, "How to Love a Forest"
- e. Marianne will connect with the Librarian about book talk. If Ethan can give a presentation, then we might be able to pair this book discussion with his talk.

### **III. Community Values.** (Susan and Dave)

VT Council for Rural Development (VCRD)

New Haven Neighbors has an interest in NHCC joining this group. Susan spoke with Kim Callahan.

NH Neighbors wishes to Increase the number of events in town, collaborate with VCRD which designates up to 3 towns per year for their Community visits program. No fees involved.

Townspople come together to decide what they want to work on and VCRD will facilitate the goals.

Susan will discuss with Kim next to see where this goes.

### **IV. Town Newsletter**

The Town Clerk, Pam, is asking for February input . Marianne will work on that on a monthly basis.

Town Report for Town Meeting Day needs a paragraph which is a year in review for 2024.

### **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

Would Sophie Maz. be willing to share her tracking link video? Its a fund raiser so how would that work? If no, then Sue Morse has Youtube video links. Dave will reach out to both.

#### **IV. MOVE TO ADJOURN**

**7:48pm**

Next regular NHCC meeting: Wednesday, February 19, 2025. 7:00pm

Armchair Naturalist live presentation at New Haven Library.