

NEW HAVEN, VERMONT
***DRAFT* CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 17, 2025 AT 7 PM VIA ZOOM

Call To Order: 7:07 PM

Attendees: Ellie de Villiers, Mark Caban, Polly Darnell, Dave Lewis

- I. Welcome to our newest member Mark Caban.**
- II. Review and approve the minutes from July 23, 2025.**
Dave approved, Mark second
- III. NHCC game camera lending project**
Everything is in place , cameras in boxes, written instructions, QR code for viewing the YouTube instruction video. Ruth is prepared and suggests that the checkout period be 3 weeks. We agree. Ruth will add an announcement of the loan program to her library news. We will publish another public announcement as well.
- IV. AVCC reporting obligations.**
 - > Our annual dues were paid this month.**
 - > Toward the end of this year AVCC will require a brief status report on the camera loan project made possible by their grant funds. This will be included in their Annual report in Jan 2026. They provided a link so that we can see what this might look like.**
<https://vtconservation.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/AVCC-2024-Annual-Report.pdf>
 - > In May 2026 it will be required that we submit a Success Story.**
<https://vtconservation.com/success-stories/>
 - > In September 2026 at their annual meeting we may be called on to give an 8-10 minute presentation about our camera loan project. Marianne prepared a slide presentation in case we were asked this year. So we are a step ahead on this.**
- V. November 2025 and the culmination of our 2yr wildlife crossing project.**
Those monitoring cameras are encouraged to keep up to date with loading camera images into the Google drive. If you can remove the protective housing and collect
collect everything that will be helpful, anytime after Nov 1. Dave will be making the rounds to gather the equipment as time allows.
- VI. Armchair Naturalist season is dead ahead!**
Any ideas and suggestions for topics are welcome. Dave will ask Marianne for names of any presenters that she may have lined up in advance.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- > Ellie raised the question of what to do with our data from the wildlife crossing study. Also, we should be looking at budgeting. Dave will get account balance and 2025 expenditures for Oct meeting.**

> Polly is reading an interesting book by Thor Hanson about observing nature in our own yards and raises a question about some format that might be used so the community can share what they are seeing. Also, is there any communication from the Regional Conservation Partnership regarding an Oct meeting? Or the Vermont Council on Rural Development? Dave is looking into these last two.

**VII. Move to adjourn
7:36 PM
Moved Ellie
Second Polly**