

Attendees (4): David Lewis, Rhiannon Johnson, Polly Darnell, Ellie de Villiers, Susan Smiley, John Peters
7pm - 8:00pm

Review and approve the minutes from the April 14, 2024 meeting minutes - Polly moved to approve, Ellie seconded, Susan abstained because she was absent, unanimous approval

Agenda/New Business

Review and approve the minutes from April 17, 2024

A suggestion has been made that we engage the town road workers regarding areas where they observe wildlife road crossing. Having maps will help and we need a plan for meeting with them.
SUSAN, POLLY

- Road Crew Involvement in Wildlife Crossing
 - Susan: asked road crew if they would share their knowledge and research of the wildlife crossings on a map or aerial photo - they said yes
 - Susan will connect with Pam to get printed maps on 11x17 paper
 - Polly suggests printing in 4 pieces
 - Susan will deliver the maps to the road crew so that they can mark it up.
- Open Meeting Training
 - Ellie: we're meeting under a blanket COVID waiver that allows for public meetings to be virtual. There is not an amendment to the Open Meeting Law sitting with the Senate which would allow Advisory Bodies (Conservation Commissions) to continue to meet virtually. This will be decided after July 1, 2024. We may also be a requirement that the meetings are recorded and posted but that is TBD
 - There will also be a mandatory Open Meeting Law training
 - We should all be reviewing Open Meeting Law
 - We need to start including the zoom link in our posting
 - Rhiannon: We need to ensure that we cannot get Zoom bombed - this may be settings dependent
 - Polly: can we get listed in the calendar of Town Meetings?
 - Susan to reach out to Danielle or Pam
- Summer Field Visits
 - Polly: no suggestion on where to have one, but a good way to engage the public
 - And then having the armchair naturalist program in the winter for 3 months
 - Susan: Chris Granstrom still has his site south of the winery - this may be a good place for a walk about

- Polly - this would be a great way to learn about how he has used it and what he values about it
 - Rhiannon to reach out to Chris
 - SusanNorma Norland: Howland has a great piece of land with cliffs and rocks and
 - Susan to reach out to Norma
 - K Hart: Farm at Rt. 17: have ag focus and conservation focus
 - Susan to reach out to Norma
- ACRPC
 - Ellie: they are pulling together a website, calendar and message board to list all activities that Conservation Commissions are working on and involved in to encourage Addison County CC to interact, share knowledge, support each other and get together as work groups, share learnings, etc.
- Middlebury College Land
 - Susan: attended a session with the college about what the college is doing with their 3000 acres of land. There is acreage in New Haven near Ratlin Bridge. We could get info from Pam and consider this as an option for a walk about
 - David will talk to Pam and someone at the College about it - contact Mark Lapin
 - Polly is willing to talk to Mark Lapin
 - Ellie: Susan what are the next steps?
 - Susan: now we wait while the College assess the input and decides what to do next
- Budget
 - Current bank account balance: \$4019.35

Old Business

Rhiannon has done a great job creating an NHCC Google Drive account and a folders section for storing camera data. Have you used it yet? What questions are on your mind? If you make an entry in error how do you fix that? Any suggestions?

- The group reviewed the Google Drive and went over some trouble shooting/tips

We ran out of time in April to learn about ACRPC helping us with a community engagement project.

- Rhiannon: while in ELT, we learned that a good community engagement exercise is doing a community wide values map
 - Rhiannon to touch base with Deron Rixon and invite him to join the next NHCC meeting to talk about what this exercise might entail and what support would look like from the ACRPC

MOVE TO ADJOURN: Polly moves to adjourn, Susan seconds. Unanimous.

DRAFT