

Fayston Conservation Commission

Minutes

January 19, 2023

1. Corrie moved to approve the minutes from November 30, 2022, as amended. Akhil seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, the motion was approved.
2. Updates/Discussion
 - a. Budget – Lisa and Corrie reported that the Select Board approved almost all the FCC's requests for FY2023. The only adjustment was a reduction in the amount requested for the Conservation Reserve Fund from \$5,000 to \$3,500. The budget will be presented to Fayston voters at Town Meeting on March 7th.
 - b. Conservation and Recreation Visioning – Corrie has replaced Akhil on the Steering Committee and is now Chair of the Ecological Integrity Working Group.
 - c. Boyce Hill – Amy Sheldon, the contractor hired to write the management plan, hopes to have a first draft to the Steering Committee before their next meeting on January 30th.
 - d. Knotweed – Waitsfield and Warren CCs are gearing up to hire a crew for summer Japanese knotweed eradication efforts. Fayston will work on an inventory of knotweed sites and collaborate with the other towns to get help managing selected sites.
 - e. Wildlife Corridors – The Warren Conservation Commission is sponsoring a panel discussion – “Wildlife Corridor Enhancement Program” - on February 16th at 6:30 PM at the Big Picture. Jens Hilke from Vt. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and Lisa Sausville from VT Coverts will be the guest speakers. Lisa or Corrie will represent the FCC in a question/answer period at the end of the presentation.
 - f. Tri-town meetings – Discussion re: benefit of tri-town collaboration and sharing.
 - g. Planning district – Discussion about how Conservation Commissions are under-represented in the MRVPD and how to have a better voice on key issues affecting our community.
 - h. Green-up Day is on May 6th.
3. Membership – The FCC said goodbye to long-time veteran member **Ned Kelley**. Ned has been a tireless worker, contributor, and integral team member and will be missed. He, along with his partner Judy, will continue to help with Japanese knotweed eradication efforts. FCC will ask the Select Board about the possibility of adding an “alternate” member. Lisa made a motion to approve Amy Dalton and Andrea Henderson as new members of the FCC. Akhil seconded. Discussion about asking Ashley Madea to serve as an alternate. All in favor, motion was approved. Lisa and Corrie will reach out to Amy, Andrea, and Ashley. Lisa will speak with Jared Cadwell about an alternate.
4. Next meeting: **February 23rd at 6:00 PM**