Fayston Conservation Commission Minutes

Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2024

5:45 - 7:00 pm

Fayston Municipal Office

1. **Call to Order:** Pete, Andrea, Brian, Amy, Woody in attendance.
2. **Approve minutes from Oct. 23, 2024 and Tri-town:** Motion made by Woody. Pete seconded. All in favor and the minutes were approved.
3. **Public input:** No one from the public in attendance.
4. **FCC Administration**
    a. Post Tri-Town Meeting follow up priorities:
    *Riparian buffer zone/hydraulic issues.
    *Flood mitigation based on ecologically sound considerations. River morphology.
    *More time coordinating among CCs re: wildlife corridors, contiguous forest tracts, working with landowners.
    *Establish a subcommittee among CCs to report and collaborate on projects. Brian will serve as the FCC for tri-town collaborative efforts.
    *Form an entity to address pooling funds for all CCs.
    b. **Budget** - Proposed 2025 budgets will be presented to the SB on 12/4.
5. **Project updates**
    a. **Chase Brook Management Plan Subcommittee Report** - Michael Brown/Birdseye Consulting has submitted a proposal for work on the management plan update. Additional bids for work were sought from two other well-regarded foresters but they are unavailable. Proposed moving forward with the Birdseye bid given its very reasonable cost for work performed and will present proposal to Selectboard.
    b. **Chase Brook Maintenance** - Tarp for 2025 pollinator garden has been secured with pallets
    c. **Boyce Hill** – Kiosk installation complete. Volunteers have cleared trees from barn foundation. Noted that town website FCC page has area for Boyce Stewardship Committee members to be listed
    d. **Invasives/Knotweed** - Tri-town invasives team attended Nov 2 Ecological Planning Lab Symposium at UVM. Invasives Survey Report completed and shared. Native trees planted along Mill Brook above German Flats culvert and along Chase Brook below Barton Road

culvert. Tri-town invasives team met with Sam Graulty, VLT Nov 15 re a potential webinar on our MRV invasives initiative this winter. Next tri-town invasives/UVM planning meeting scheduled for Jan 6. Hans Estrin, EPL Project Manager, UVM Extension shared this 6-minute video about how the UVM EPL aims to collaborate with community partners, as shown .

e. **Conservation and Recreation Visioning** - CRV's VOREC deadline was extended from Dec. 31, 2024 to the end of March.The last community forum has been rescheduled from Nov. 20 to sometime in January. CRV steering committee continues to meet to finish grant deliverables.
f. **MRV Bear Initiative** – Fayston MRVBI contribution for 2025 to be made this year.
g. **Wildlife Corridors** - n/a
h. Other - AVCC 2025 membership dues to be paid this year.

6. Items for next month's agenda:
7. Other business

Next Meeting: **TBD**
Meeting adjourned - 7:00 pm