Town of Londonderry

Conservation Commission February 18, 2021 5:00pm VIA ZOOM MEETING

Minutes

- 1) Call Meeting to Order
 - A) At 5:05pm
 - B) Irwin Kuperberg, Helen Hamman, Jane MacKugler, Sunny Wright, Stephen Swinburne
- 3) Approval of the January 2021 Draft of Minutes
 - A) Sunny Approves
 - B) Helen Seconds
 - C) All in favor
- 4) Old Business
 - A) Subnivean presentation recap
 - i. We had over 80 in attendance
 - B) West River Trail historical signage update
 - i. Project on hold until Spring
 - C) Future programs- webcasts
 - i. Coyote Presentation
 - a. New title: What's Up with those Wily Coyotes?
 - b. March 18th.
 - ii. Mill Pond
- a. Irwin organizing the program with Marie Caduto from DEC
- b. Will include the ecosystem of the pond and the river
- c. Perhaps input from the historical society on the historical aspect of the pond.
- d. Presentation to happen in April.
- iii. Other Programs
 - a. Steve S. organizing 4 potential new programs
 - b. VCE Conservation Biologist Steve Faccio to present on vernal pools in April.
 - c. Pete Kerby-Miller on photographing vt Mammals summer
 - d. Kent McFarland on Lady Bugs in May.
 - e. Ruth Stewart on Bird Count in the late Fall
- 5) New Business
 - A) Conservation Camp
 - i. Helen proposed our sponsoring a Londonderry resident for the Green Mountain Conservation Camp

- ii. Sunny feels it is a unique opportunity for us to get a young member of our community to get involved in conservation.
- iii. Irwin will investigate use of the Conservation Fund for this as well as accepting donations
- B) Resignation of Kathie Stone
 - i. We will send her a letter of appreciation for her many years of service to the LCC
- C) Light pollution
 - a. Irwin surveyed other members CCs from the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions as to what, if anything, they are doing about light pollution. He shared the results.
 - b. Of the towns that have regulations, including Londonderry, most regulations pertain to mitigating nuisance and/or hazards due to excessive lighting and specify a down angle of 60 degrees, but no more than 90 degrees.
 - c. Local concerns:
 - i. Our DRB has not had active enforcement of outdoor lighting regulations.
 - ii. Project Londonderry would like to add street lights "downtown".
 - d. We will begin by exploring dark sky awareness program. BBA has a telescope and students could get involved.
- D) Winter Invasive Species detection
- E) Volunteers are needed for the annual hemlock wooly adelgid (HWA) survey. Must look for HWA infested twigs in the known infestation areas weekly and send observations to UVM.
- 6) Wildlife Sightings
 - a. Chickadee, wild turkey
- 7. Meeting Adjourned at 6:15. Next meeting to be held Thursday March 18 at 5:00pm