

Burke Conservation Commission –Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2019

Present: Hank Butler, Cathie Wheeler, Chris Manges, and Elise Lawson

Absent: Sue Leskin, Ross Stevens, Kevin Mack, and Joan Harlowe

Speaker Series: Judd Kratzer will be our next speaker this spring. He is a Fishery Biologist with VT Fish and Wildlife. Hank will talk with Judd about dates for his presentation. We are looking at the first two weeks in April 2019.

Pete's Pond Property: Still no word from VT Land Trust about interest and/or partnership. We will continue to reach out to them. The first step is to talk with select board to determine if they are ok with us pursuing a town ownership of this property. Hank will try to get on their agenda for February to determine interest level. Elise will investigate additional funding from private foundations.

One Burke Trails Committee: Elise will attend their next meeting on February 11, 2019. There is interest in determining environmental impact of trail construction (wildlife, wetlands and sensitive areas). As a commission we would like to work with One Burke and Kingdom Trails to help expand and help determine best management practices and minimal negative impact.

Trout Unlimited tree planting in Spring 2019: Chris said that James Bentley can get St.J. Academy students involved with tree and shrub plantings along the pump track / East Branch buffer zone. The best time for students to be involved is late April or Early May. We will also reach out to Burke schools. Hank will talk with Fritz Gerhart to try and set a date, so we have plenty of time to recruit students in the spring.

Meeting adjourned 7:10 pm

Next meeting February 20, 2019 at 6:00 pm Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Elise Lawson (filling in for Joan Harlowe)