

Stafford Conservation Commission

Agenda

April 23, 2024

201 Justin Morrill Mem Hwy (Colbeck house) 7-8 PM

1. Approve minutes from February 27, 2024, meeting.
2. Go around the room. What are you seeing in the woods right now?
3. Faulty septic systems on the river. What can we do?
4. Invitation to join neighboring conservation commissions in the Upper Valley focused on biodiversity and deer control. Seeing the Forest for the Trees: *Declining Biodiversity in Upper Valley Forests*. They are sponsoring talks to educate the public about deer browse. Partners:
Upper Valley Land Trust, Hanover Conservancy, VT Center for Ecostudies, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Hanover Garden Club, VT Coverts, Redstart Forestry, VT Woodlands Association, County Foresters for Orange, N Windsor and Grafton counties, Hanover Howe Library,
Conservation Commissions: Hanover, Lyme, Norwich, Lebanon, Grantham, Claremont, Thetford
5. Update on dates and details of our hikes and education outreach programs.
6. Trails report from Mike Hebb. What about an Elizabeth Mine hike? Drone vs peregrine falcon.
7. Loops will cost around \$20 a piece. Shall we buy six loops to share during our hikes?
8. Village to Village hike/bike trail and TRORC's ten-year capital budget plan. Ed Huang and the Rec board are working with the town's grant manager to put in a trail that would widen the road for bicycles. They think the SCC should focus on a hiking trail that would go elsewhere, but he also thinks we should work together to coordinate. Bryan Kovalick, from TRORC will help us research funding, if we are interested. I need to get back to him on this. It looks like Ed will contact him as well.

9. Reminder, Healthy Forest initiative at David and Judy's is Sunday, May 19th, from 9AM to noon.
10. Elect officers.
11. Other business
12. Next meeting