

Strafford Conservation Commission

Minutes

April 22, 2025

Strafford Town Office 7:00 PM

Present: Courtney Potter, Kate Bass, Micki Colbeck, Anne Fayen, Erin Yunger, Mike Hebb. Also attending: Levi Smith and Jonathan Nedeau.

- Approve minutes from March 28, 2025, meeting.
- Presentation by Levi Smith, local young naturalist, called: Moths and more.
- Look at town calendar and put in our hikes and educational dates.
- Requested permission to terminate a board member's position after months of no communication every winter. Will contact the Selectboard for permission.
- Discussion of outside organizations who want us to take on their projects or ideas for projects.
- Next meeting, May 27th, 2025

Strafford Conservation Commission guided hike series for 2025 (tentative dates)

Morning bird walk with Marty Frank and Kathy Thompson at the Pocket Park May 3rd. 8 to 9AM with Anne Fayen. Meet at the Pocket Park in South Strafford along the river behind the Red barn and the Rosa Tyson gym.

May 10th A spring ephemeral hike up Taylor Valley trail 1pm with Kate Bass. Meet at the parking area at the base of the Taylor Valley trail just where the town stops plowing.

May 31st hike at the Cobb Town Forest with Mike Hebb and Micki Colbeck to see the ***Cypripedium parviflorum***, commonly known as **yellow lady's slipper** and the ***Cypripedium acaule***, the **pink lady's slipper** or **moccasin flower**. Meet at 10 AM at the Cobb Forest parking area on Hemenway Road.

June 28th, Saturday, Hike the rich fen at the Cobb Town Forest with Mike Hebb to see the ***Cypripedium reginae***, known as the **showy lady's slipper**, **pink-and-white lady's-slipper**, or the **queen's lady's-slipper**. Meet at 10AM at the parking area at Cobb, up Hemenway Road.

July or August, Crafting with natural materials for children and families with Cortney Potter and Kate Bass at Old City Falls pavilion. Date to be announced.

June or August, children and family hike up Whitcomb Hill with J.T. Erbaugh. Date, to be announced.

Mid-August River walk with Erin Yunger to look at beavers and riverine species. Date, to be announced.

September Pocket Park celebration. Come learn about native shrubs and perennials with Anne Fayen. Date, to be announced.

Early August hike at the Cobb Town Forest rich fen with Micki Colbeck and Levi Smith to look at wetland ferns and mosses, the Lesser Purple Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera psycodes*), and turtleheads. Meet at the parking area up Hemenway Road. Date TBD.