

Strafford Conservation Commission

Minutes

October 22, 2024

Strafford Town Office 7:00-8:00 PM

Courtney Potter, Anne Fayen, Steve Faccio, Kate Bass, Micki Colbeck, Mike Hebb, Erin Yunger,
Kitty Mackie

- Approved minutes from September 24, 2024, meeting.
- Decided that we do not need to ask for any money for the 2025 budget requests as long as Tim's pay for Old City Falls is covered. We will also look into who will be caring for Whitcomb hill to make sure this is covered as well.
- Kiosk discussion-We will send the town a picture similar to the Cobb kiosk for approval. Size will depend on where we can put it. We would like to put it at the park and ride. Micki and Kate will go to a selectboard meeting.
- Trails update:
 - a. Cobb Forest logging- Micki and Mike went up to check and all looked good. No damage. Was reports that grease cartridges were left behind possibly from the loggers. We will reach out to the forester for a follow up.
 - b. Trails Manager stipend discussion-after some research it was found that it would be best to be independent and raise our own money for funding because if the town pays, they will have total control. We can look into grants or donations. Possible events for fundraisers. Dick Josler is in the process of donating the mine land and doesn't want anyone up there until it has gone through.

- Beaver activity and report from Beaver Camp- Large dam At Susan Cloak's. Talk of a possible beaver viewing party at Susan's. Micki sent images to the state beaver expert but he didn't see any problems since there is plenty of floodplain below.
- Short report from VT. Housing and Conservation's Sowing Seeds - Conservation Connections for a Resilient Future. Also, VT ANR, Municipal Day, November 1st. Asking for reimbursement.
- Hike with Sharon Selectboard at the old Swett property – My Walden. The Upper Valley Land Trust is in the process of owning it but still must raise \$45,000. Micki and Mike attended.
- Fill out Forest surveys. Mike will do Cobb, Steve will do Whitcomb and David should do the Ashley Forest one. Micki will send the surveys out.
- Next meeting November 26, 2024, 7 PM Town Office.
- Meeting adjourned.