

**Waterbury Conservation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 14, 2014**

Present: Aric Brown, Heather O'Wril, Jane Brown, Mike Hedges, Joan Beard, Allan Thompson, Steve Hagenbuch

- Mike H. reviewed minutes from December 2013 meeting
- Sue Morse presentation (Dec. 12, 2013)
  - General sentiment was that it was a good event
  - Jane B. indicated she would like to return to the Green Mountain Club Visitor Center for future events. The Stowe Theater was a great venue but was not centrally located and perhaps too large of a space. Lacked conversational, community feel.
  - A number of WCC members felt the presentation was a bit too long (went over the scheduled time by nearly 30 minutes), lacked flow at times, and was off topic a bit.
  - \$263 in donations were raised for the Waterbury Conservation Fund
  - Well organized and pulled together by WCC. Special thanks to Tom Jackman for his work and support in making it happen. Allan T. will send a thank you to Tom for his assistance.
- Future program/presentation ideas
  - Make future presentations more relevant to "home". Define take away messages
  - Mike H. suggested a Shutesville Hill specific presentation. To this Allan T. mentioned that Jens Hilke had suggested a photo collection show (from remote cameras) to highlight wildlife crossings.
  - Joan B. talked about the approach used at the Friends of Bobolinks presentation at Trapp Family Lodge to address Shutesville Hill – directly contact individual landowners and have conversations with them about their observations. Not necessarily a program but one way to initiate dialogue with landowners.
  - Joan B. asked if there may be a wildlife crossing expert in town for the fall conference in Burlington. If so perhaps we could get them to come and make a Shutesville Hill presentation.
  - Steve H. offered to lead a forest bird presentation this spring at the Waterbury Center Grange. This could be followed up with a morning bird walk.
  - Additional program idea – brook trout. Perhaps a presenter from Trout Unlimited or Shannon at the Fly Rod Shop.
  - Waterbury Energy Fair – do we want to be involved this year? Consensus was yes. Sat. April 5 from 9-3.
- Friends of Bobolinks program update
  - Allan and Joan attended the presentation by Michael Sweatman at Trapp Family Lodge on 1/13/14.
  - What can WCC contribute to this effort in Waterbury? Allan will contact Michael to find out.

- Other business
  - Jackie Cassino and Dan Currier from Central VT Regional Planning Commission will be attending the February WCC meeting to discuss the Central VT Forest Stewardship Project.
  - VT Natural Resources Council is hosting a meeting in Greensboro on January 27, 2014. The meeting is based on the guide “Community Strategies for Vermont’s Forests and Wildlife: A Guide for Local Action”. WCC has been invited to attend.
  - Mike shared full-sized drafts of the Green Mt Byway signs. It was noted that changes still need to be made to text on the wildlife crossing panel.
  - Stowe Land Trust has hired a new executive director, Caitrin Maloney. Jane suggested we engage with Caitrin and perhaps invite her to a WCC meeting.
  - Aric B. suggested we create a WCC Facebook page. All agreed to give it a try. Aric agreed to create and manage the page. Anyone can submit material to Aric for posting.

Submitted by Steve Hagenbuch  
Feb 11, 2014