4/21/25 Craftsbury Conservation Commission meeting minutes - Called to order at 7:03

Present: Colin Netzley (chair), Diane Morgan (vice chair), Elinor Osborn, Farley Brown, Nancy Milholland, Molly Sease
Absent: Ken Menard, Liz Keglor

Approval of March minutes - An edit to the draft minutes was proposed with the new wording: "~~Conclusion is that here in Craftsbury, we are doing a great job managing our invasives.~~ While Craftsbury has a lot of progress to make, great work is being done and credit is due to Elinor Osborn for her continued diligence and achievements at the Little Hosmer outlet stream project, managing Japanese knotweed."

Farley motioned to approve the minutes as corrected above. Nancy seconded. Unanimous approval

New member search - Colin still needs to post to FPF. Farley emailed Tim Fishburne to inquire about any interest he may have.

Working Group restructuring - The goal of this was to give individuals more flexibility around the projects one could take on, as they are currently (slightly) restricted by the working groups of which they are members. Diane made a motion to hereby abolish all working groups. Nancy seconded. Unanimous approval.

Watershed Grant update - Colin is to meet a representative from the road crew on Tuesday the 22nd (tomorrow) to discuss several issues around the Little Hosmer outlet stream project. Farley will attend that meeting as well. Huge shout out to the Sterling College students who pulled more knotweed and stabilized part of the streambank with terraced willow fascines. Elinor marked locations for the bareroot perennials that will be picked up within the next few weeks - to be announced - and Thursday, April 24th, will be a day for slitting the fabric to make way for the plants. Grass is to be planted on the strip between the road and the start of the erosion fabric. Jute netting is to be used to protect the seed during germination. Planting days are to be announced.

Outreach events for 2025 - Diane brought up plans and ideas for outreach that included, but was not limited to:

- Holding sessions at farmers market with kid friendly crafts or discussions on iNaturalist. iNaturalist hikes to take place after such sessions. The table could also focus on seed distribution or pollinator habitats, etc.
- Talks regarding native species, conservation mowing, pollinator gardens, promoting No Mow May.
- Having kids interview elders in the community about their lives in Vermont - including the historical society?

- Presentation by Bob Zaino on 30/30 (30 percent by 2030)
- Discussions to raise awareness of the roles of individuals in fighting climate change.
- And others to be discovered!

Working Group reports - none

Items for next meeting - 5/19/25
- Planning outreach
- Watershed Grant update