06/16/25 Craftsbury Conservation Commission meeting minutes - Called to order at 7:04

Present: Colin Netzley (chair, resigning), Diane Morgan (vice chair), Elinor Osborn, Ken Menard, Farley Brown, Nancy Milholland, Molly Sease, and Finn Horak (Sterling intern, guest)

Absent: Liz Keglor

New items - Colin is stepping down from the Commission, as he is now a full-time resident of Hardwick

Approval of May minutes - Diane moved to approve the May minutes (with some spelling corrections), Ken 2nd, unanimous approval

New member search - Colin posted on Front Porch Forum, seeking new members. Molly brought up a coworker, Cory Weyrick, who is interested and could - contingent on SB approval - perhaps start in June. Several names were suggested and Colin will inquire after meeting for contact information.

Act 181 update - Farley showed off a map of the Future Land Use of Craftsbury, which is required by Act 181. Act 181 seeks to streamline and modernize VT's land use planning and Act 250.

Forest Management/Trees for Streams - This program was started in 2014 as a tree planting event to stabilize streambanks. Craftsbury has several sites where this work was done. Currently planned for Thursday, August 28th, from 3:30-6:00pm, a tour will take folks through the project site on the Jones farm, another near the Town Garage across the Black River from the C-Village Store, then to the Atwood Farm leased to Pete Johnson on Whitney Brook.

Watershed Grant update - Knotweed continues to crop up in every place it possibly can (expected). A huge shoutout to Finn and Sam, the Sterling College interns, who have visited the site weekly to work at the knotweed site. TH 19, above the project site, has been re-graded and the slope has changed. Despite the improvement, topography has still funneled water and created gulleys. A search has begun to find material that could be used to fill in this area and grade at least the top of the project site to prevent further excessive erosion. More willow fascines may be created to line the top edge, providing an extra layer of security from road runoff. Regular volunteer work days may be resituated to Saturdays - will post on FPF.

Bob Zaino presentation update - Waiting on a response from Bob Zaino, so the presentation will likely take place later, in the fall.

Items for next meeting (7/21) -

- Possible Sarah Damsel (NRCD) introductory Trees for Streams talk
- Watershed Grant update

Meeting adjourned at 8:14