

**Springfield Conservation Committee  
Committee Meeting  
November 18, 2023  
Town Offices Meeting Room**

Members present: Carrie Kellow, Nathaniel Ells, Chuck Gregory, Heidi Trimbach, Hallie Whitcomb; Geetu Melwani by Zoom

Meeting was opened by Carrie at 11:38am with a roll call.

During the open forum Nate made a motion and Chuck seconded it to adopt the Committee Share as a standing item. Later in the meeting it was decided to put this first on the agenda after roll call. Adopted unanimously.

Nate moved to use open forum for an update by each member on project progress since last meeting. Reports are as follows:

- Hallie joined Rockingham Conservation Commission meeting by zoom and was welcomed. They are focusing on energy issues and land trust issues, with updates by their committee members.
- Nate and Carrie went to VNRC meeting in Ludlow to discuss river corridor issues and flood mitigation. There were discussions by representatives of state agencies and local conservation groups.
- Chuck went to a Trails and Rural Economy meeting. Hunting in Harkness Park and looking into developing trails in the town forest were discussed.
- Carrie contacted other conservation groups and Mark Blanchard, Springfield's tree warden, to start building relationships.

Minutes were approved as corrected.

New business

Hallie and the hospital hill project: No progress made, unable to contact Cheryl Joy but will continue to try. Hallie, Heidi and Carrie will contact Cheryl and John Harmer at the high school horticultural program for help with this project. Heidi moved and Hallie seconded adopting this as a project. After further discussion the motion was amended so that the project would be done in collaboration with SPARCL, as they were the original contact. Passed unanimously.

Project list ideas: Hallie to contact Edgar May regarding native landscaping; Nate to contact Association of VT Conservation Committees, to look into grant monies for various projects and investigate natural resources inventory. Carrie plans to continue to contact other conservation groups in the area and research wetlands natural resource inventory. Heidi to research biological and ecological inventory systems and citizen involvement in these projects. Chuck to investigate greenways and state information on connecting fragmented lands. Geetu is interested in inventory of public land, creating workshops and lecture in collaboration with other conservation groups.

Re-phrase mission statement and goals: Tabled until next meeting. Passed unanimously.

All attending signed the rules and revisions statement. Geetu to sign later this week.

Discussion of website and social media. Tabled until meeting after next. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Heidi Trimbach, Secretary