

Minutes

Burke Conservation Commission
Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 6 pm
Burke Town Hall

1. Welcome: In Attendance Diane Wells (Chair), Elise Lawson, Chris Manges, Cathie Wheeler, Hank Butler (Treasurer), Lindley van der Linde (Secretary), New member Curt Busto, and guest KristenLanglais
2. Approve December Meeting Minutes: Motion in favor to approve
3. Treasurer's Report-by Hank Butler, our proposed 2026 budget has been increased to \$20,000. Thank you to Cathi Feely for helping raise money for our community forests! There will be a warrant article for the BCC asking permission for unspent funds to be rolled into the Town Stewardship fund rather than returning to the general town fund.
4. VT Fish & Wildlife Conservation Camp sponsorship- Ages 12-16, \$250 per session, Buck Lake or Castleton Campus. Spread the word through LI and BTS. Currently set up as a behind the scenes sponsor. Tell students to apply and if they get in we'll support them. Lindley will put a Flier in homeroom and newsletter home. The BCC voted to appropriate funds up to 3 students.
5. Winter/Spring Plans for Workshops/Talks/Walks? There was talk of moonlight snowshoe. Tracking? Spring NRI presentations. May vernal pool walk.
6. Green Up Day at Willey Woods, Saturday May 2 at 9:00 am-Gathering to install a trail log stand. Bench. Posts for parking area to discourage driving onto the field.
7. Update: Natural Resource Inventory-Elise sent out a draft in November. She has been actively editing. Elise is encouraging us to continue giving her feedback. She is sending the most recent draft to the Planning board and BCC. March BMC gathering? Elise has also been working on fliers highlighting info on important key points/data. Moving forward can we help educate those who need to apply this data to our town planning? Recommend to hire a GIS consultant. Regionally create a database. Pool funds from a group of towns.
8. NorthWoods Stewardship Center Seed Collection Project- Northwoods needs permission to collect woody plant seeds. We are able to hand the form to the town for permission to collect on town land like Willey Woods. Diane will reach out to see if they need student help.
9. Next BCC Meeting: Wednesday, February 18, 2026
10. Other Business-Regional session for VT Conservation Plan 2/9 in Lyndonville 4-7 pm at NVU Lyndon. Action items for discussion and feedback.
-Where to set up a duck box made by Bob? Beaver Pond on N. Pasture? Chris has ideas. They need cleaning and predator protection.

11. Adjourn

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85346909103?pwd=MM9fJJDvMzcKWWH4lbFgNFLjouzRPo.1>

Meeting ID: 853 4690 9103

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