

Minutes
Burke Conservation Commission
Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6 pm
Burke Town Hall

1. Welcome-Diane Wells (Chair), Lindley van der Linde (Secretary), Cathie Wheeler, Hank Butler (Treasurer), Elise Lawson, Brandon Mapes, and Chris Manges. Guests: Skip Kelly and Kevin Sweeney
2. Approve April Minutes-Approved!
3. May 15 Riparian Planting Project - Review-Successful turnout! BCC, plus Taylor and Americorps, Trout Unlimited and Burke Town School Students. All 200 trees were planted with collars.
4. May 17 Willey Woods Bird Walk - Review-Great weather! 9 people attended. 32 species. Wiley Woods a "hotspot" on e-bird.
5. Vermont Butterfly Atlas- 8/3 3 hour option/workshop inside and outside. Free. At Burke Clubhouse in E. Burke? We need a venue. Diane will help work out advertising.
6. AVCC Tiny Grant-Denied. Second year in a row. We will keep trying and finding other opportunities.
7. Coyote Guest Speaker-Chris Schadler. October or Early November date will be set by Hank.
8. Green Mt. Conservation Camp Sponsorship-Lindley will help connect the BCC with the families applying.
9. Willey Woods Community Forest-
 - a. Access road- Proposal to upgrade presented to Selectboard. Road will be upgraded by town road crew. Jim Sullivan will help coordinate.
 - b. Roundy Brook bridge discussion of where it should go, no update at this time.
 - c. Kiosk installation-holes were dug, kiosk was installed, set in concrete-roof yet to be added. Signage and maps set for the kiosk and are on their way. Forest subcommittee is discussing the names of the trails.
10. Treasurer's Report- BCC does not need the selectboard approval to spend anything under \$10,000.00. Hank also updated the numbers in each of the forest accounts and the annual budget.
11. Forest Subcommittee spending policy- The forest subcommittee is looking at work being done on a three acre area of Willey Woods. The work would involve releasing apple trees by grinding and mulching soft woods around an old apple tree area to help create diversity for wildlife. This would cost potentially around \$2,000.00. This work would not be done until later in the year, when the forest is

less active, perhaps November. There was a discussion about how the subcommittee might spend this money if needed, no decision made at this time.

12. Natural Resource Inventory - Landowner Contact - Elise explained this process and brought data that was being collected around Burke for the Burke NRI. Elise had fliers that are options for exploring NRI data, as an accessible option in addition to a larger NRI report that can be used to share data with the community. The BCC working on getting landowner permission to inventory on private land.

13. Next BCC Meeting: Wednesday, June 18

14. Other Business

15. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted, Lindley van der Linde and Brandon Mapes