



Bennington Conservation Commission
January 18, 2024 6:30 PM at the Depot

Minutes

“Beautify Bennington, pick up a piece of litter every day.”

Call to order: 6:30 PM

Attendance: Zach Allen, Jane Butler, Joe MacGregor, Jon Manley, Mike Munhall, Steve Willette

Absent: Tom James

Minutes: From December meeting were approved as written

Reports

- River Committee - Joe and Jon - no meeting

- Town Hall Update - Tom - none

Old Business

- CD - the town treasurer has informed us that the 9 month CD has been purchased.

- 2024 Budget - While the 2023 budget is closed the 2024 budget won't be official until March.

- Membership - a member of the commission who has been absent since August with no communication was voted off the commission in a Unanimous Vote.

- Civil War Talk Saturday - 2:00 PM at Historical Society
 - Joe will contact Eric Tenney
 - Mike will make historical society arrangements

- North Bennington Road complaint. Mike, Jon and Steve took a look at the area of the complaint and feel it should be referred to DES. Discussion was held about the complaint and a letter to DES asking for further investigation of the complaint by its agents. The letter will be given to the Select Board to forward to DES. Unanimous Vote

- Sausage Fest planning - Thursday February 8
 - Number to plan for 150
 - Sausages/Hot dogs...purchased and cooked Steve's hot dog cooker

- German Potato Salad - Mike
 - Sauerkraut Joe
 - ColeSlaw - Jane
 - Baked beans - Jon and Steve
 - Pretzels - Mike
 - Dessert - Zack
 - Drinks - Hot - Jon, Cold - Joe, Water - Mike
 - Music - Mike
- Mountain Road Update - Zach
 - Land Conservation Talk: UPDATE - Jane.
 - Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00 PM would be a good time. We will also plan on it being Zoomed. Jane needs to contact Mr Masterson on his fee.
 - Sawdust expansion - letter to owner - by whom?

New Business

- Calendar 2024 a couple of edits were made but it is a fluid document so there was no vote to accept.
- BCC Sign -
- Professor Goodbye of Franklin Pierce University update?

Upcoming Calendar Items to Note -

Civil War Talk Saturday January 20 @2:00

Sausage Fest - February 8

Meeting was adjourned 7:45PM

Next Meeting February 15 @6:30 @ depot

Recorded by Mike Munhall

- GOALS FOR 2024 - adopted October 19, 2023
 1. Establish a property conservation easement educational program to help residents decide to put their land into conservation or common use. Look into providing financial assistance to those wishing to do either.

2. Make a greater effort to get a website operational.
3. Perambulate Greenfield townline and complete the Deering townline.
4. Monitor water quality in town waters and look into remediation of current issues.
5. Continue work on the Bennington Trail and build a parking area at the trailhead.
6. Do more educational programming on environmental issues and history.