

STARSBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(approved) December 2017 Minutes

January 21, 2018 A two-hour afternoon outing on the fourth Sunday of the month was planned instead of a regular Monday night meeting. Purpose of the outing was to explore the “Vermont Significant Wetlands” at the foot of the Hogback Mountain in Starksboro. We extend our gratitude to Common Ground Center and adjacent land owners for granting permission to explore this unique natural community. Fourteen people on skis, snowshoes and micro spikes enjoyed this sunny afternoon outing. No Monday evening meeting is scheduled for January. Jody will contact the landowner of the wetland up-south to see if they would grant permission for us to explore these wetlands sometime in August, September or October.

February 19 To accommodate members’ schedules this month’s meeting was held on the third instead of the fourth Monday. Emily Stoehr, Jody Higgs, Jan McCleery and Robert Turner discussed options for 2018. Emily indicated she would take on the responsibility of writing media releases and our information for the SCC section of the town’s website. Jody plans to continue as point person for the Harvest Supper, Robert for the town forest. Jan will continue as contact person at least through the first quarter of year. A proposed schedule incorporating ideas discussed follows on the next page.

STARSBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2018 SCHEDULE of MEETINGS (proposed)

- March 4 **Report Wildlife Observations** at Town meeting. Frank Spina and four students will be plotting on a town map all wildlife sightings reported to them by Starksboro residents.
- March 20 A public meeting with Hinesburg CC's Kate Kelly is scheduled at 6:30 on this Tuesday evening. Kate plans to speak on Amphibians: Spring Migration and her work for the Vermont Reptile & Amphibian Atlas Project. No meeting to be held on the fourth Monday, March 26th.
- April 6 South Starksboro resident, Eric Hanson, a certified Professional Groundwater Hydrologist will speak on **Groundwater Science: Occurrence, Movement and Protection Strategies** at 7:00 pm Friday evening at the Starksboro Public Library.
- April 23 ... or the first warm, wet evening of April Kate Kelly has invited the SCC to join her in providing roadside crossing assistance to amphibians migrating from their upland winter habitat to the wetland breeding areas on Hinesburg Hollow Road near our town lines
- May 28 Memorial Day holiday, no meeting.
- June 25 ...or a date TBD... Conduct annual maintenance on Creekside Trail. Robert will procure the supplies to complete repairs required on the suspension bridge.
- July 23 Summer recess, no meeting
- August 27 Summer recess continues, or wetlands hike TBD
- September 24 Up-south wetlands hike or Harvest Supper planning
- October 22 Harvest Supper planning or Up- south wetlands hike
- November 3 Harvest Supper fund raiser for Four Winds Nature Institute
- November 26 Wrap up meeting for year and looking ahead w/plans for 2019
- December 24 No meeting