

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – October 3, 2022

Board members present: John Koier, Phyl Newbeck, Michael Lazorchak, Lisa Paone, and Livy Strong

Livy Strong called the meeting to order at 7:05

1. Review of minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of September, 2022 were approved.

2. Financial Report

Our total assets are \$1,391,077 consisting of \$1,185,502 in fixed assets, \$92,611 at New England Federal Credit Union, \$11,200 in our money market account, \$51,182 in our checking account, \$28,579 in Schwab investments, \$11,188 at the Vermont Community Loan Fund and \$10,191 at the Vermont Community Foundation.

In September we took in \$430 in memberships and spent \$2,481 consisting of \$805 for Kikas Valley Farm property taxes, \$475 in postage, \$538 for Riverside Meadows property taxes, \$100 for a special event, \$22 for subscriptions, and \$513 for Wolfrun property taxes.

We need to notify the Vermont Community Loan Fund and the Vermont Community Foundation that Lisa is our new treasurer.

Lisa had to upgrade to a more expensive version of Quickbooks since there were some recurring transactions, but she may be able to go back to the basic one soon. PayPal has been taken off the website.

- 3 Membership/fundraising

We haven't taken in much revenue. The fall newsletter went out and we got some new members from it. Livy will send out a membership renewal letter in the fall reminding people that we rely on our membership income.

- 4 Land projects

There will be a small gathering this Saturday at 9:00 at Mobbs to celebrate the conservation of the property. The Jericho Conservation Commission, JULT, VLT, the Mobbs Committee, and the Kuserows have been invited. There will be some refreshments. Next year there will be a variety of events held at Mobbs.

- 5 Land Stewardship

John will be joined by Joellen Stivala of the Vermont Department of Natural Resources for the annual Gateway parcel easement monitoring visit on the morning of October 14.

The Wolfrun forestry management plan is due for renewal by April 1, 2023. Our managing forester Allen Thomson will be completing his field work this fall in preparation for updating our plan to meet that deadline. JULT purchased the land twenty years ago.

John has had no response from Danny Peet of the USDA – NRCS regarding erosion issues on Paul Mazza’s farm operation. Fencing and stream edge planting on the ten-acre pasture looks probable for happening in the spring.

6 Publicity

Diana is handling MailChimp for us.

Phyl continued to object to the banner photo on our website since it’s of Mt. Mansfield which we most definitely have not conserved. Livy said the photo was taken from Tomasi’s Meadow, but Phyl doesn’t believe there is enough of the meadow in the photo and disagrees with the placement of our logo. The board agreed that it would be worth spending more money to improve the website.

7 Events

The fall wildflower walk was the same weekend as Harvest Market so there was a lot of activity. The next time we hold this event it will be earlier in September. Eight people attended.

Livy asked people to register for the cairn walk and warned them that there was some walking involved, but 20 people attended. In the future this event may be held later in the season when there is less vegetation which obscures the cairns. Livy was pleased to see the entrance was mowed but she’s not sure who is responsible.

8 Community news

The food sharing shed in Underhill closed for the season. Both Jericho and Underhill are trying to formulate a plan for citizen feedback on ARPA fund. Underhill has formed a committee and Jericho has sent out a survey. JUPD will apply for funding for the lawn and the driveway.

9 Any other business

Michael asked the Board to look at the LENS website (<https://www.upstream.tech/lens>). The Board was impressed with their work but think JULT is too small to take advantage of.

Will Grigas from Stackpole and French will come to talk about the ongoing lawsuit at our next meeting.

10 Winter project

We will revisit our strategic plan and talk about building our board this winter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35

Respectfully submitted,
Phyl Newbeck, JULT Secretary