

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – January 4, 2021

Board members: Sabina Ernst, John Koier, Michael Lazorchak, Phyl Newbeck, Livy Strong, and Hilaire Thomas

Guest: Diana Dunn

We are pleased to report that we received more membership donations in December of 2020 than December of 2019. We also have a number of first-time members.

In land stewardship news, we will be hiring Michael Brown of Birdseye Forestry to be the new consulting forester for Kikas Valley Farm. We are also about to embark on a feasibility study regarding regaining access to the northern portion of Wolfrun/Gateway with the hope of creating a low-cost stream crossing using a donated 30”culvert. We also plan to finish marking the boundary of the new addition to Kikas Valley Farm and to replace some of our No Hunting signs. We may integrate suggestions from Audubon Vermont on making Kikas Valley Farm more bird-friendly and will work with the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program regarding protecting the stream on the Kikas Valley Farm pasture land. After receiving a question from a local park user, we plan to see how other land trusts treat the idea of e-bikes on their land.

JULT, the Vermont Land Trust and the Mobbs Committee will meet with the Jericho Select Board regarding language for Town Meeting regarding the conservation of the Mobbs property. Livy noted that Seven Days listed Casey’s Hill as the number two sliding area in the county.

Although we look forward to the day when we can meet in person again, we are going to purchase a Zoom Pro account. We will use that account for a virtual annual meeting but we may be able to have one or two of our annual spring events in person.