

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – April 5, 2021

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

Guest: Diana Dunn, Paul Hansen of Ecopixel, Niels Rinehart from the Trails Committee

Paul Hansen discussed potential updates to the JULT website which was designed a decade ago. The plan is to make it more accessible to the visually impaired and to make it work better on phones. Other suggestions are to make it easier to use for those looking for recreation opportunities and to have options for recurring donations.

Diana Dunn reported on the four-person committee which is working on publicity and increasing membership. She unveiled a design she created for the upcoming Bird Walk at Mills Riverside Park which will be printed, laminated and distributed to people attending the walk. Diana has also established a JULT Instagram account.

Our annual meeting will be via Zoom at 7 p.m. on May 3 with Ethan Tapper as our keynote speaker.

Our forestry management plan for Kikas Valley Farm was accepted by our County Forester. A Wingate resident was concerned about dogs pooping at the entrance to Kikas Valley Farm so we put up a sign asking people to be a good neighbor and clean up after their dogs and it seems to be helping.

Vermont Land Trust will be drafting a memorandum of understanding for Mobbs Farm and the hope is that the Jericho Select Board will sign it, resulting in a conservation easement. The process could take several months.

Neils Rinehart said the Trails Committee is trying to connect various parcels in town with trails including one that goes from Kikas Valley Farm through Jericho Settlers' Farm to Mobbs. They are going to plan some walks to show landowners what the proposed connection would look like. They will also have walks to showcase existing trails.