

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – September 6, 2021

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

Livy Strong called the meeting to order at 7:05.

1. Review of minutes

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

2. Financial Report

In July and August we took in only \$2.32 in interest. In July, we spent \$5,000 in legal fees and in August, we spent \$4,617 which consisted of \$4,000 for invasive plant removal at Kikas Valey Farm, \$105 in legal fees, \$312 for web hosting, \$152 for Wolfrun Natural Area property taxes for Richmond and \$48 in membership expenses.

Our total assets are \$1,191,458 consisting of \$985,487 in fixed assets, \$91,662 at New England Federal Credit Union, \$46,191 in our money market account, \$19,288 in our checking account, \$28,568 in Schwab investments, \$11,064 at the Vermont Community Loan Fund and \$9,197 at the Vermont Community Foundation.

3. Membership

We got two new members from the booth we had at the Jericho Farmers' Market.

4. Land stewardship

On August 20, Sabina and John had a scheduled site visit to review the invasive barberry removal work done by the Intervale Conservation Crew at Kikas Valley Farm Overlook and to discuss ongoing invasive plant management strategies. They were accompanied by Conservation Specialist Annalise Carington and Crew Leader Christine Cramer of The Intervale Center. John described the work of the all-woman land stewardship crew as impressive, particularly since the hard physical work was accomplished on some of the hottest days of the summer. Christine said that one day the heat index was 103 F and they considered cancelling, but with shade from a tarp and lots of hydration they managed to safely finish the day's work. They have one more visit this season planned for September 8.

The plans hashed out for next year are to continue working strips along the forest edge where the infestation is heaviest and to schedule the visits early in the season when the temperatures are cooler. John and Sabina concluded that at least for the near future, the work being done by the Intervale crew is well worth continuing.

5. Publicity

The fall newsletter is at the publisher being formatted and should be ready for print shortly. There was no summer newsletter this year. Livy invited the board to take a look at the website and see if there are any changes and/or updates which need to be made. We have not been keeping up and neglected to include the wildflower walk on the site. A postcard was sent to every member and an email to those who are part of our Mailchimp mailing list which also includes non-members. Diana Dunn believes we should hire someone to do publicity for us.

Diana created an Instagram account for JULT and Livy has been adding a number of photos. She believes that people react more quickly on Instagram than Facebook and that younger people are more likely to use Instagram.

## 6. Events

Livy believes the farmers' market booth went really well despite less than exemplary weather. She brought a table and tablecloth and John had a pop-up tent. They experimented with an app called Square that allowed us to process membership payments immediately.

The fall wildflower walk had 13 or 14 people and Livy said it went really well. The majority of those who attended were not members. A couple from Essex went on the walk and asked for a newsletter so they could become members.

## 7. Community News

Sabina said that on September 18 she will go to Nordic Farms in Charlotte as part of a gathering to which land trusts were also invited. She would like to bring the JULT board and newsletters to share with others there and will bring some of her extra seed balls.

A bio blitz which was initially planned for Jericho is currently on hold.

The bridge from the Town Garage will not be moved to Mills Riverside Park because the cost would be too high. Instead there will be a temporary bridge, 70 feet long and wide enough for access. It needs to be completed before the Covered Bridge work begins. Livy submitted a few grant requests and may be asking for money at Town Meeting in Underhill and Jericho for the reconstruction.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40

Respectfully submitted,  
Phyl Newbeck, JULT Secretary

## 8. Financial Report

The meeting adjourned at 7:50