

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – November 1, 2021

Board members present via Zoom: Sabina Ernst, John Koier, 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 October, 2021 were approved.

2. Financial Report

In September we took in \$826 consisting of \$700 in memberships and \$126 in interest. We spent a total of \$4,237 which consisted of \$2,000 for an escrow deposit for the Charron property and \$575 for legal work on the property, \$700 for accounting, \$100 for postage, \$692 for printing and \$100 for web hosting.

Our total assets are \$1,188,217 consisting of \$985,487 in fixed assets, \$92,025 at New England Federal Credit Union, \$46,193 in our money market account, \$15,555 in our checking account, \$28,569 in Schwab investments, \$11,188 at the Vermont Community Loan Fund and \$9,197 at the Vermont Community Foundation.

3. Membership drive and renewals

We sent newsletters to all new residents of Jericho and Underhill. So far, that mailing has not yielded anything. A short letter went out recently for membership renewal.

4. Land Stewardship

John reported that the Wolfrun culvert got plugged to the tune of \$500 but we will probably have to do something about the beavers. He is renewing his application for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program work on the stream and 10-acre pasture.

5. Event ideas

Livy reminded everyone that there is an art show at Town Hall which includes paintings and photographs inspired by lands that we have conserved with Mills Riverside Park represented the most. It will be on display through December.

Sabina has heard about something called forest bathing and thought it was something we might offer to our membership, perhaps at Wolfun. She described it as a way of being present and mindful in the woods. A lot of it has to do with deep breathing and taking in healthful phytochemicals. She has seen it offered by Audubon Vermont. Phyl noted that a man named Duncan Murdoch has been leading forest bathing outings in Vermont.

Livy noted that Southern Vermont Natural History Museum does a program called *Vermont Wildlife through Time* and she is looking into that for a possible presentation, maybe at our annual meeting. Additionally, a local man has some avian ambassadors as part of Outreach for Earth Stewardship so that is another possibility. Cathy Paris has offered to do a fern walk next summer.

6. Publicity

Diana would like to see us doing something before Christmas via MailChimp, advertising gift memberships as holiday presents. Livy is trying to post on Instagram as well as Facebook. She noted that our website will need a serious text revision soon. We haven't done any revisions since the Tomasi meadow project.

Livy received the inaugural Land and Lives Award from VLT. She has yet to receive the bowl which is the tangible part of the award.

7. Community news

There is a new percentage split for the funding the park district, library district and fire department. It was a 60/40 split for Jericho and Underhill but Jericho has grown faster than Underhill so it will 62/38.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30

Respectfully submitted,
Phyl Newbeck, JULT Secretary