

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – September 12, 2022

Board members present: Sabina Ernst, Phyl Newbeck, Lisa Paone, 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 June 2022 were approved.

2. Financial Report

Our total assets are \$1,392,397 consisting of \$1,185,502 in fixed assets, \$92,611 at New England Federal Credit Union, \$11,200 in our money market account, \$53,123 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 August we took in \$470 in membership income (all but \$100 through PayPal). Our expenses totaled \$1,688 including \$750 in accounting fees, \$24 in computer expenses, \$156 for Kikas Valley Farm property taxes, \$646 for printing, \$90 for special events, and \$22 for subscriptions.

Lisa has set our taxes for on-line payments. She is also working with Stripe to have non-profit status. We will be switching from PayPal to Stripe.

- 3 Membership/fundraising

Livy is working on a membership renewal letter which will go out in late October. We are not currently fundraising for any particular project.

- 4 Land stewardship

We need to redo the forest management plan for the Gateway section of Wolfrun Natural Area, so John will contact our consulting forester.

Sabina went to a meeting in July regarding grants for small land trusts. A few years ago, we had someone from Audubon walk our properties and they said we could apply for grants. Sabina intends to talk to John about those proposals when he gets back.

There are no cows on the Skunk Hollow Meadow portion of Kikas Valley Farm this year but Cubby and Norma Blades fully intend to get the cows out next year. We are hoping to install electric fencing to keep the cows out of the stream.

5. Events

On September 24 we will have a fall wildflower walk with Liz Thompson. There will also be a cairns walk on October 1 and Livy is requiring people to register in advance for the event. Eight people have already registered for the event. There will be a celebration for the Mobbs Farm on October 8. It is no longer being considered a town-wide celebration but rather than invitation event due to parking constraints.

## 6. Publicity

Our new website is live. Phyl strongly suggested moving the logo off the picture of Mt. Mansfield to below the photo.

Phyl suggested the following language for a marker for the Browns settlement in Mills Riverside Park.

### ***1774: The Brown family became the first white settlers in Jericho***

*Joseph and Hannah Brown built a log cabin in this meadow on Abenaki land in 1774 with their young sons Charles and Joseph Jr. In 1777, Joseph and his sons were captured by Native Americans. They were released after three months and were able to return home to Hannah.*

The board agreed that this was an improvement over the original language so it will be sent to the Underhill Historical Society and then the State Historical Society.

## 7. Community news

Sabina is now the Jericho website administrator, working up to ten hours a week, while the town is waiting to hire a new Town Planner. David White is helping the Planning Commission in a consulting capacity. The Conservation Commission is working with Jens Hilke of Vermont Fish and Wildlife to focus on certain areas of wildlife crossing. They will be meeting with Arrowood Consulting for additional work. They are also working on planting new trees at Town Hall and doing some landscaping with serviceberry trees.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40

Respectfully submitted,  
Phyl Newbeck, JULT Secretary