

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – September 9, 2024

Board members present: John Koier, Michael Lazorchak (arrived 7:12), Phyl Newbeck, Lisa Paone, and Livy Strong

Livy called the meeting to order at 7:02.

1. Review of minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of June 2024 were approved.

2. Financial report

Lisa provided the financial report prior to the meeting. Our total assets are \$1,379,719 consisting of \$1,187,502 in fixed assets, \$5,132 (one-year term) and \$89,032 (two-year term) at New England Federal Credit Union, \$11,207 in our money market account, \$36,450 in our checking account, \$28,932 in Schwab investments, \$11,615 at the Vermont Community Loan Fund and \$9,847 at the Vermont Community Foundation. We now only have one CD, and the interest rate is higher. We will meet with Sheryl to try to figure out how to get our money out of the Vermont Community Foundation.

In June we took in \$639 consisting of \$346 in realized and unrealized gains and \$282 in dividends. We spent \$1,245 consisting of \$1,022 for accounting, \$47 in investment expenses, \$45 in office expenses, and \$30 for subscriptions.

In July we received \$110 in memberships. We spent \$1,246 of which \$1,169 was for insurance, \$45 was office expenses, and \$30 was subscriptions

In August we took in \$359 in memberships and spent only \$274 consisting of \$87 for groceries, \$250 for membership dues, and \$37 for subscriptions.

3. Land Stewardship

John Koier reported that we have finally received approval for federal and state rebates to complete our much-anticipated work on Kikas Valley Farm. Dennis Bianco of Vermont Invasive Plant Control, LLC (a former employee of Will Dunkling) will finish treating the remaining 60 acres of invasives found on Kikas Valley Farm starting in late September. We will be paying upfront and will be reimbursed after the work is approved. Bill Anderson, VYCC Forest Project Manager will coordinate with our forester Michael Brown to complete the 25-acre timber stand improvement project sometime this winter. The work will improve habitat for birds, and we will be reimbursed for this work, as well.

The Wolfrun beaver dam washed out again in July, but the land bridge held, and the beaver exclusion fence needs to be cleared of woody debris.

The new Kikas Valley Farm trail map completed by Randi Roy for us has been installed in the new kiosk at the parking lot. The remaining kiosk gifted from the Jericho Trails Committee will be sited and installed at Wolfrun sometime this fall, probably in the parking lot.

#### 4. Publicity

We need to remove the green conservation signs. John and Livy will discuss how to do it. We will be at the Farmers' Market this week. Livy took part in a podcast called Talk of the Town at the Jericho Catalyst Church to discuss our land trust. The Underhill Jericho Historical Society invited Tammy Davis to talk about her family's journey to land conservation on September 15 between 2 and 3:00 at the Jericho Community Center. Tammy invited Livy to join her.

#### 5. Events

The fall wildflower walk with Liz Thompson was a success. There were 16 people including a mother with a five-year-old daughter who was really into plants. Alaire Diamond will be the speaker at our Annual Meeting on November 11 at the Community Center. Her specialty is wetlands. We will do a lot of publicity.

#### 6. Community news

The first public meeting of Jericho's Town Meeting Reimagined will be October 5 at the MMU library. The second meeting will be in January. The Farm Upstream has their farmstand every Saturday. On September 15, the Underhill Community Potato Patch will be harvested at 4 pm. There will be a golden potato. There will also be a food truck.

The meeting concluded at 7:44

Respectfully submitted,  
Phyl Newbeck, JULT Secretary