

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – June 1, 2026

Board members present: Sabina Ernst, John Koier, Michael Lazorchak, Phyl Newbeck, Lisa Paone, and Livy Strong

Livy called the meeting to order at 7:03.

1. Review of minutes

Upon a motion, duly made and seconded, the minutes of April and May 2026 were approved.

2. Financial Report

Our total assets are \$1,504,328 consisting of \$1,187,502 in fixed assets, \$100,527 at East Rise Credit Union, \$111,221 in our money market account, \$51,253 in our checking account, \$30,517 in Schwab investments, \$11,967 at the Vermont Community Loan Fund and \$11,289 at the Vermont Community Foundation.

In April we took in a total of \$1,877 consisting almost entirely of memberships. We spent \$88 on postage, \$298 for web posting, \$943 in accounting fees, \$831 for advertising, \$50 for meals, \$1,180 for membership dues, \$82 for subscriptions, and \$50 for other business expenses.

In May, we took in \$149, consisting almost entirely of memberships. We spent \$125 on accounting, \$20 on advertising, \$300 for membership dues, \$85 for subscriptions, and \$78 for Wolfrun property taxes.

3. Membership/Fundraising

We got a few membership renewals from the spring newsletter. Livy talked to folks from a foundation that wishes to remain anonymous. Grants are submitted by invitation only. Livy had some discussions with them and heard nothing for quite some time until a few days prior to the due date of the application when she got a reminder to submit the application. She had missed the initial invitation to submit. Livy needed Sabina's assistance to use the portal. Livy applied for \$20,000 (the maximum was \$50,000) for publicity for Wolfrun Natural Area since the request needed to be project based. The foundation will meet in early June to make their decision.

Sabina suggested doing some fundraising for one or two beaver deceivers which cost close to \$4,000 for either Wolfrun or Kikas Valley Farm. It would be good to be prepared if we need to take action. Maybe we can get a matching grant. Sabina will get us more details.

4. Land Stewardship

John Koier has been checking the culvert underneath the farm access road at Kikas Valley Farm and although the water has risen there doesn't appear to be any danger. The folks from the

Intervale planted trees to replace the ones that were mowed down. Metal stakes with signs have been put up to delineate the restoration area. John Koier and John Connell also built two duck houses which they will bring. Sabina saw three baby wood ducks there.

Sabina said beavers are starting another pond past her bridge on her property. She is looking at Cornell Ornithology's small grant program for future work at Kikas Valley Farm. She had expected there would be some kind of monitoring to see if the work done on a prior grant was successful.

5. Events

We had a very busy May. We had a spring wildflower walk with Michele Tulis, our annual meeting, which was not well attended, and our bird walk. Livy reiterated that she is interested in ideas for more events. We may have a fern walk this summer. Livy is also planning the summer music series. The farmers' market is very well attended. We will not be having a table there this year because of all the work involved. Last year we got one new member for our efforts.

6. Publicity

The Community Bank offers a space each month for dedicated organizations, and we are on their schedule for October. The hope is that we can get our display board updated.

The two Johns will put up the "This Land is Conserved Forever" signs on our properties.

7. Community News

We will have a summer barbecue at Lisa's house at 5:30 on August 2nd.

Susan Bresee of the Planning Commission gave the Park District a presentation on the work of the wastewater task force.

The Underhill Community Potato Patch was planted with three different varieties. It took only 24 minutes to plant and there is a crew of volunteers who will be monitoring the plants. The harvest will take place on September 19. Last year they planted 25 pounds and harvested 700 pounds. This year they planted 25 pounds again.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45

Respectfully submitted,
Phyl Newbeck, JULT Secretary