

Jericho Underhill Land Trust monthly meeting – July 6, 2026

Board members present: Sabina Ernst, Phyl Newbeck, and Livy Strong

Guest: Austin Grant

Livy called the meeting to order at 7:03.

1. Review of minutes

Lacking a quorum, we were unable to vote on the minutes of June 2026.

2. Financial Report

Our total assets are \$1,504,133 consisting of \$1,187,502 in fixed assets, \$100,577 at East Rise Credit Union, \$111,224 in our money market account, \$51,091 in our checking account, \$30,381 in Schwab investments, \$11,967 at the Vermont Community Loan Fund and \$11,289 at the Vermont Community Foundation.

In June we spent \$1,671 consisting of \$62 for accounting, \$20 for advertising, \$1,174 for insurance, \$330 for membership dues, and \$85 for subscriptions.

3. Membership/Fundraising/Grant

We are doing well with membership for the year. We believe we will be receiving a grant of \$50,000 from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation. We hope to use the money to help publicize the Wolfrun Natural Area. Sabina said the Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Committee would like to do trail work at Wolfrun, perhaps creating a loop trail. Sabina suggested that Livy attend their next meeting. Livy thinks that Kikas Valley Farm is a better place for new trails.

4. Land Stewardship

We received a letter from Wingate about the beavers. We offered to be proactive so that any issue with the culvert will be dealt with before it becomes a problem. Right now, there is no threat to the main culvert under Tyler Place but there are two sets of private landowners having issues. The beavers have made it as far as Sabina's bridge which has water all the way up to the walkway and the stream is circumventing that part of the land. They built a mini-dam next to the bridge in a very short period of time. The beavers have increased the avian population.

Once we know we have the money from the foundation, we may try to get a beaver deceiver for Wolfrun Natural Area. There are currently no beavers at Moose Pond. Livy has seen wood ducks there. Sabina said John Koier and John Connell made two wood duck nest boxes and she would like to take their picture with the boxes for the newsletter.

5. Land Project

There is no new news

6. Events

On September 12 there will be a nature walk, but the location hasn't been decided yet. This will replace the walk that Liz Thompson used to do. Cathy Paris and Dave Barrington will lead the walk.

Austin introduced himself. He graduated from UVM in 2016 and bought a home in Jericho in 2020. He is certified as a green builder, works in engineering, and volunteers at non-profits like Age Well. He is interested in putting on a winter festival in Jericho called Snow Fest in early February. He would like to include a winter snowshoe walk, possibly at one of JULT's conserved properties. Indoor events might be held at the Jericho Community Center. Austin shared a screen providing detailed information on possible events. Sabina said there may be the opportunity to get a grant from AARP.

7. Publicity

Livy will start working on the fall newsletter. We need to update the website. We need to check if Ecopixel merged the MailChimp account with Little Green Light. Livy will ask him.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40

Respectfully submitted,
Phyl Newbeck, JULT Secretary

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