

Tunbridge Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes for June 4, 2026 meeting @ Tunbridge Library

In Attendance: Linda Clark, Peter Hayden, Cheryl Metcalf, Tess Mix, Evan Reiss, Stew Fisher

Meeting Opening at 6:05 pm

- Reviewed & approved May Minutes- minutes approved with no corrections.

Committee Reports:

- Invasives Committee
 - Honeysuckle Removal Event Debrief - This was a successful and well-received event, with 11 people in attendance and with equipment and manpower a good amount of honeysuckle was removed from the entrance to Wicopy Woods.
 - Discussion as to where this should be an annual event to track progress each year at Wicopy Woods.
 - Discussion: Should we make this an annual event, or focus on additional areas that provide more visibility as to efforts in invasive removal?
 - Town Dump and Rec Field mentioned as possible locations
 - *Action Items: Decision to report back to community*
 - *SF to share to FPF & TD, LC to share photos & CM to share on social media.*
 - Chervil: Noted that it seems that mowing was earlier this year. Plan to circle back to best practices for chervil removal for next year, with a renewed focus, including employing use of community tractors and “adopt-a-road” strategies.
 - *Action Items: LC & TM to discuss possible “adopt-a-road” with Mary R.*
 - Fall Invasive Plant Workshop with Redstart Consulting - PH is coordinating and planning with Markus regarding a date in September.
 - Discussion around location, ultimately decided upon Tunbridge School with an eye to the possibility of the Fairgrounds next year
 - *Action Items*
 - *PH will establish date and time*
 - *CM will create poster for advertising*
 - *TM to discuss with Mary R for future Fairground possibility*
- Annual River Clean Up:
 - TM is event lead & will begin this planning process, identifying location and coordinating with involved parties to have (Oct.) date set by August meeting

- *Action Item: CM to create guiding document for Handbook with information based upon past events and past collaborators*

Ongoing Business:

- Play Every Town Debrief - wonderful community event & performance
 - TCC was the beneficiary of \$470 from this event, MK has deposited
 - *Action Item: LC and CM will send thank you notes to those involved*

New Business:

- Hurricane Hill Trail - Discussion around TCC and its role in shared and legal trails. Decision that this lies outside of our scope and capacity, though would be a great trail if pursued by landowner.

6 Month Check-In: We have completed a lot of events and projects in the first half of 2026 and there are a lot of accomplishments to celebrate!

- Goals Discussed
 - 3 Year Plan for Invasives
 - The Invasives Committee will meet to create a long-range plan and report back to the commission to discuss actionable items, annual cycle, and to determine ownership with members of commission.
 - Community Communication
 - Discussion regarding increasing methods for communicating with the Tunbridge community
 - Discussion around community partners and “second-tier” stakeholders
 - The Communications Committee will meet and share back to our larger group.
 - Four-Town Meeting
 - discussed a possible meeting with 4 towns to be held at the end of this year.
 - Need to identify goals/objectives and lead

Meeting Closing:

- Announcements & Communication
 - CM Shared recent email communication from community members
- Discussion of July meeting date
 - We agreed to meet next month, but to also check in regarding possible conflicts with July 4 weekend

- Discussion to use this meeting to walk the trail together to Strawberry Hill
- Tunbridge Quarterly - discussed list of events and information for the upcoming June submission