

## MINUTES

Danby Community Council  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, July 7, 2016, 7:00 pm

**Board Members present:** Alison Christie (Pres.), Ted Crane (ex officio, non-voting), Bill Evans (Secr.), Susan Franklin, Danny Wheeler

**Board Members absent:** Gould Colman (VP), Julie Clougherty (Treas.),

**Others present:** Scott Davis (representing Katharine Hunter)

### Welcome & Announcements

It's Susan's Birthday! Alison announces West Danby Summer Picnic at Hatch Pavilion, celebrating Joan Barber, Saturday August 27, 4:30pm. She also indicated that there will be a West Danby concert starring Richie & Rosie Saturday September 10th. And finally, she notes that her boys Blake & Liam are now teenagers! Later in the meeting there was extensive discussion about the large numbers of chipmunks this year and other wildlife around Danby, including a huge flight of fireflies in Danby Community Park during the Civil War Living History.

Alison has created a Facebook page for the DCC.

### Minutes

Deferred until next meeting

### Event Follow-up

Oboe & Piano Concert – Very nice event. 35 to 40 attended; \$27 dollars in donations. Thanks to Bob Strichartz for donating the piano tuning.

Breeding Bird Count – A nice beginning to this hopefully annual DCC offering. 6 attended the walk along Michigan Hollow Rd on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 5 attended the search for breeding warblers on June 12<sup>th</sup>, and 10 joined the walk at the Danby Community Park on June 18<sup>th</sup>. A new species was added to the known species of birds in Danby during the breeding season – the Chimney Swift! Bill will write up a report for the Danby Area News.

Civil War Living History – A heck of a great event. The breakfast was packed (> 150 people) and folks showed up at the encampment all day long Saturday. The troop pulled out early Sunday (2pm) due to the heat. The Fife & Drum and the Service at the Civil War Memorial were wonderful. Danny and his wife worked six hours Friday preparing for the breakfast and several other members of his family helped serve and do dishes. The expenses for the breakfast were covered by donations and enough was left to make a nice contribution to the church. The 148<sup>th</sup> would be happy to come again in two years, and Danny noted he thought he could get the 137<sup>th</sup> from PA. Early preparation is the key for future events.

Alison thought it would be nice to have it earlier when school is in session. Danny noted that one of the fellows thought it would be nice to have it later in the season. This year the date was determined because it was the only weekend the 148<sup>th</sup> had free. Alison brought up the idea of integrating the African American experience. Danny noted there is an excellent colored troop from NYC that portrays a Massachusetts regiment, but they are expensive. Alison suggested we could

apply for a grant from the History Center. She also mentioned the possibility of sponsoring a film called Civil Warriors at Ithaca College.

Susan noted that the field was uneven for walking, which may limit some folks from attending. Danny indicated that one port-a-potty would have been enough. He also said that we could have gotten straw for free from a farmer instead of buying it from Agway.

The Sidney folks were happy with just getting a free breakfast. The DCC will donate \$30 to the fellow who brought the cannon to cover his powder and \$100 each to the 148<sup>th</sup> Regiment and the 7<sup>th</sup> Calvary.

This is the 150th Anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic.

### **Upcoming Events**

Fun Day – Travis has a crew helping at the DCC kids tent (Alison has the T-shirt screen and ink for him) and Bill will host the DCC natural history tent again, which will feature Danby butterflies and information about the stream conference.

Danby Stream Conference – planned for July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Upper Buttermilk State Park pavilion.

Mike Finn, The Finnstitute  
Stream poems

Todd Miller, USGS (retired)  
The big time geological processes that underlay Danby's streams.

C.J. Randall, Town of Danby Planner & Ric Dietrich, Town of Danby Supervisor  
The Town interface

Jon Negley, Tompkins Co. Soil & Water Conservation District  
Stream management

Jean Foley, NYDEC  
NY regulations

Anne Klingensmith, Danby volunteer for Community Science Institute  
A stream water quality monitoring initiative

Wayne Myers, Bald Hill historian  
Mills of Michigan Creek

Dave Brown, Jennings Pond film project  
Videos of stream organisms

Alex Flecker, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University  
Aquatic insects

Lang Elliott, Nature Sound Studio  
The mellifluous soundscape of small streams

The presentations are to be followed by moth watching with Jason Dombroskie, Collection Manager, Cornell University Insect Collection.

Bill lured the speakers in by promising dinner. He indicated that a \$300 contribution for a catered dinner would cover the cost and he will come up with donations for any additional costs. Bill hasn't advertised it beyond Danby because the event is targeting Danby residents and the pavilion only holds about 75.

### **Event Planning**

Bee presentation and field trip by David Hopkins and Peter Borst tentatively August 21.

Spider presentation by Linda Rayor tentatively in October.

Bill brought up the idea of having an annual "International" event where folks who have visited a different country can share their experience. He suggested the first one could be on Namibia because a number of Danby residents have visited Namibia recently. This would be a mid-winter event.

Alison initiated discussion on determining a date for Danby's Harvest Festival -- October 16, 2-6pm was decided upon. Further brainstorming planned for next meeting.

Augusto, a violinist, and Pablo Cohen, a guitarist, are a possibility, or a quartet involving some of Augusto's students.

Danny noted that Doug's Fish Fry will be at the church November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Alison noted that the band Driftwood may have an opening – she will send them an inquiring email.

Alison discussed potential fundraising for Dave Brown's Jennings Pond film project, noting urgency for the project ecologically and that it would be a great thing for the community. Next step agreed upon would be coordinating with him on an article for the Danby Area News. Alison will email him. Susan has been in touch with a woman from Level Green who is involved.

Alison noted we have not done a cultural concert in several years.

### **Financial Reporting**

The treasurer's report that Julie provided was discussed. Alison feels like we don't understand the full potential of our funds and we may be under spending.

### **Meeting Adjourned ~10:00pm**

#### **Quote from the meeting**

"I can say that the boys in the 148<sup>th</sup> were telling everybody that green heron tastes like eagle."

-Danny

Respectfully submitted by Bill Evans