

Vienna Record



Volume 24, Issue 4

August/September 2021



The Vienna Fire Department hosted Girl Scout Troop 2096 in June and led the girls through requirements to earn their First Aid badges.

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Selectmen's Minutes

June 1, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Brian Church, Kerry Casey, Tom Jewett, Mark Rains

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #11 (\$93,571.90).
4. The selectmen held a zoom meeting with residents to review the articles to be voted on Monday, 06-08-2021. The town will vote on whether or not to raise \$1,500.00 for furthering the grant application for broadband and to raise \$10,000.00 for the reevaluation of the

town that will need to take place. This will be the 5th year of raising the funds to accumulate the amount needed to have the reevaluation completed. Two residents joined this zoom meeting.

5. The Selectmen worked on Property Cards and Tree Growth certificates.
6. Meeting adjourned.

June 8, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey, Roger Reville

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.

Selectmen's Minutes (continued)

3. Received an update on the Kennebec Highlands and the purchase of the Allan Blueberry property on the Mountain Road. Allans will not be harvesting blueberries this year.
4. Roger informed us that the Quail Hill road sign has fallen down and a culvert on the Varney road has a hole and has become a safety issue.
5. Meeting adjourned.

June 15, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Brian Church, Annie Tibbetts, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #12 (\$22,710.45).
4. The Vienna Community Room has re-opened to the public. Please see Brian Church for Scheduling.
5. Meeting adjourned.

June 22, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Sent out copies of two property cards to realtors.
4. Meeting adjourned.

July 6, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Brian Church, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #13 (\$ 22,519.02).
4. Discussed the grant the Fire Department received for new bunker gear.
5. Meeting adjourned.

July 13, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff, Laura Church, Dick

Scott, Belinda Berdan, Laura Rose Day, Diane Araps, Nancy Hemphil, Ron Goff, Theresa Kerchner.

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. The selectmen talked with a resident about property taxes and putting the property into open space. The application has been submitted and the assessor will be making contact with the resident.
4. The Selectmen worked with a couple of residents on picking out colors to paint the Vienna town sign in the village.
5. The selectmen met with representatives from Kyes Insurance and signed the insurance contract for the 2021- 2022 year.
6. Ron Goff came with concerns about a culvert on the Trask Road. The concern is with it rusting out; the underside is starting to rust and corrode.
7. Meeting adjourned.

July 20, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Laura Church, Alan Williams, Kerry Casey

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Reviewed and signed Warrant #14 (\$30,173.40).
4. The selectboard talked with a town resident about his idea of creating a road committee. Alan has offered to chair the committee, if one is created.
5. Meeting adjourned.

July 27, 2021

Present: Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff

1. Reviewed and dispersed the mail.
2. The selectmen read and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Bids for a new septic system were opened and reviewed. The lowest bid was Sid Smith Construction. This is a grant process covered by the State for low income septic repair.
4. Meeting adjourned.

Planning Board Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VIENNA PLANNING BOARD

May 26, 2021

The meeting convened at the Town House at 7:00 PM; members present were Waine Whittier, Alan Williams, and Creston Gaither. Minutes of the April 28 meeting were read and accepted.

Waine has had some inquiries about boats moored in the ponds. The possibility of an ordinance dealing with this was discussed. It was agreed that the Board should not move forward on this matter until the entire Board is present. Waine may discuss this issue with MMA.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

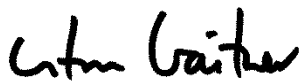
June 23, 2021

The meeting convened at the Town House at 7:00 PM; members present were Waine Whittier, Ed Lawless, and Creston Gaither. Mark Rains was also present. Minutes of the May 26 meeting were read and accepted.

Mark presented a sketch based on Tax Map 10 and centered on Lot 65-1; he would like to buy a 0.04 acre triangular parcel abutting the Mill Stream and Town House Road; there is a small structure on the parcel. The Shoreland Zoning Ordinance was briefly reviewed and it seemed ambiguous as to what dimensional requirements apply within a Stream Protection District. This seemed like something that should be referred to an attorney; Waine said that the Board could consult MMA if need be. Mark said that there was no need for the Board to act on this right now. No formal action was taken.

Waine and Creston will do a site visit on Flying Pond on Saturday June 26.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.



Creston Gaither, secretary

From the Health Officer

Brown-Tailed Moth infestations

Dan Onion, MD, MPH
Mt. Vernon/Vienna/Fayette Health Officer
293-2076; dkonion@gmail.com
August 2021

I recently attended a medical conference held at MaineGeneral about the current brown-tailed moth infestations. I'm writing about this topic because this conference was well done, my wife and I both suffered from these moths this spring for the first time, and many people in our local towns have been telling me about their experiences. Mild to severe rashes are from contact with the hairs of brown-tailed moths. If you would like more details, including many graphs, charts and photos, I recommend the [available summary of that talk](#) by local dermatologist, Jill Colvin MD, and Thos. Klepach, Colby College biology professor.

These moths are known to have invaded Maine over a century ago from their original and still current home in Europe. Since then, their numbers have waxed and waned over the years, but staying mostly in Maine coastal areas. However, the intensity of the infestation in the past 2-3 years here in Central Maine is the worst in a century, probably because of more forested lands over the decades, and two warmer/ drier recent spring climates, which lead to fewer parasitic fungi infecting the brown-tailed moth caterpillars.

The moths interact with humans mostly between April and July, during which time they first hatch out of egg nests built by the adult females in the previous mid-summer. Prevention centers around identifying those nests and destroying them. That must be done carefully, in order to avoid exposing the people doing that work from the problematic hairs that come from the adult females' egg sacks, the caterpillars, especially as they shed their last skin, and from over-wintering cocoons, and/or the egg cases deposited on tree branches. The moths prefer apple and oak trees but can and do feed on other trees including maple, birch and other hardwoods and shrubs.

Symptoms most commonly are very itchy rashes that look like multiple insect bites, most often on the inner arms and around the collar, but they can be widespread, mostly over air exposed skin. The rash is caused by millions of setae or "hairs," which are microscopic harpoon-like darts with protease enzymes that digest micro patches of skin. They are a natural defense against bird predators. Since thousands of caterpillars or egg sacks can release these hairs when shed when the caterpillars die or the egg sacks are opened, these can waft through the air on dry days, especially in June and July. They can settle on the ground, on clothing and even rarely be inhaled or invade the eyeball. Some people suffer such extensive exposure that they must take time off from work. There has been one known death from extensive disease, that back in 1914!

Treatment is, first, avoidance by wearing protective long sleeves, high collars, and avoiding walking under/ around likely affected trees during June and July, or cutting out egg sack nests in trees. The rash symptoms are hard to fix beyond tincture of time (10 days).

Community-wide prevention actions, primarily the removing of the egg sacks/nest in trees may be practical in larger communities, like Waterville and coastal cities and towns, to make life easier for the tourists and locals. Prof. Klepach also serves on the Waterville city council, where he has succeeded in getting \$100,000 to support such a project there.

Check your orchards this fall and try to kill the buggers while they sleep by immersing them in buckets or soapy water for 2 days or burning them. Good luck!

From the Health Officer (continued)

Treatment Strategies

Remove offending hairs from skin

- Duct tape or other adhesive
- Immediate washing with soap and water
 - Shower not tub bath
- Change and launder clothing
- Remove jewelry and watches in anticipation of swelling

Relieve symptoms of itch

- Camphor, menthol, pramoxine, cool packs, witch hazel, topical diphenhydramine

Reduce inflammatory reaction

- Topical steroids
- Systemic steroids
 - prednisone 1 mg/kg/day tapered over 2 – 3 weeks
 - IM Triamcinolone 40 mg
- Systemic antihistamines: variably helpful
- Topical aspirin reduced histamine induced itch in one study

Prevention/avoiding exposure

- Protective clothing, mask, do yard work on wet days
- Dry clothes inside not outside on a line

Late instar caterpillar dorsum, showing two red dots near tail



Female Brown-tail Moth ovipositing. The eggs are hidden under the brown, felt-like covering.



They make cocoons in leaves, on branches, on buildings, under eaves and boats



Town Clerk



Annie Tibbetts: 207-293-2915
 Email: ClerkTax@Viennamaine.org
 346 Townhouse Road, Vienna, Maine

The Town Clerk's office is open regular hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 5-7pm
 Wednesday 9am-12pm and 12:30-5pm
 Last Saturday of the month 9am-12pm

Editor's Notes

Advertisements or Personal Announcements

1/8 Page \$8.00/issue or \$45.00/year
 1/4 Page \$14.00/issue or \$45.00/year
 1/2 Page \$26.00/issue or \$150.00/year
 Full Page \$50.00/issue or \$290.00/year

Make checks payable to the "Town of Vienna"

Format

Submit all items via email as a word document (.doc) or as a .jpg. Please no .pdf or other formats.

Deadline

Please submit all items or articles for the February/March issue of the *Vienna Record* by **September 25, 2021**.

Send us your photos!

We want your seasonal photos of Vienna! For consideration, please email photos to: viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net

BARB'S HANDPAINTED SLATES, SAWS & COLLECTIBLES



51 TOWN HOUSE RD.
 RT. 41 VIENNA, ME
 TEL: 293-2271

Email: gilmans2@fairpoint.net
 Web: barbshandpainted.craftah.com

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News



“A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.”

Henry Ward Beecher

We have a new email address as of this past month. Now if you want to send us an email, please use: librarian@drshawlibrary.org Thanks, Jim Anderberg, for helping us get this set up. We have so many people who are willing to step in and support us in so many ways!

Remember, we have another StoryWalk® set up this year, on the trails at the Ezra Smith Wildlife Conservation Area. The book Alice chose this year is Amy MacDonald's Little Beaver and the Echo. We hope you can bring some young family members down to the trails to follow along with this good quiet story. And, Alice left a small notebook again in the wooden information box at the start of the trails, so you can leave notes about the Storywalk – we love to read people's comments. If you snap some pictures of your Storywalk adventure and would like to share them, you can email Mary Anne at malibby19@gmail.com and include a jpg. We'll post the pictures on our Facebook page!

After a few postponements due to rain, we were finally able to have our Fern program with Maine Master Naturalist, Deb Stahler. She brought lots of fronds of various ferns she had preserved over the years, as well as some examples that she had just picked. Folks also brought a few ferns that they wanted identified, and we all got a good chance to study each one. One of Maine's most common ferns is called the Interrupted Fern – did you know there are fossils of that particular variety that indicate it has been around for 180 million years?! Pretty cool that a plant can survive all the climate and other changes through time, and still thrive! Thanks so much, Deb, for introducing us to such wonderful, astonishing plant life.

The summer reading program has had to be rather self-directed this year. Alice and Linda had to cancel a couple of our outdoor story times due to weather, and we've had to send home various craft projects to our young patrons as Take&Makes, rather than doing them together out on the picnic table. We hope everyone has been reading regularly! If you haven't been in to pick up your child's Take & Make kit, please come in and grab one, we've got some extras ready to go. Alice is glad to make more Take&Makes if families are interested in continuing doing crafts at home for a bit longer. If your child has met the Summer Reading Program reading goal for the summer, you can pick up one of the Gifford's ice cream certificates from us, as a closing reward. We hope they have had fun reading this summer – it always helps to have a good book at hand on rainy or hot days!

Bat Walk: BATS! A program for all ages!

Save the date! **Friday August 20 meet at the library at 7pm** to enjoy a bat snack, learn some interesting facts about bats, see a bat skeleton and bat guano amongst other things, and for the younger crowd, listen to a bat story and do a bat craft if there is time. If not, Take & Makes will be

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library News (continued)

available. At around 7:45pm we will head over to Teaberry Lane, where parking will be available on the first house on the right. From there we will walk down the road and listen for bat echolocations under the guidance of Shevenell Webb, local Wildlife Biologist and bat enthusiast. Please wear a headlamp and vest reflector if you have one, or bring a flashlight. Feel free to join us just at the library, or meet us on Teaberry Lane. Rain date is August 21. Registration is very helpful for planning. Please email the library at librarian@drshawlibrary.org or call the library (293-2565) to let us know you plan to come.

Ongoing Book Sale: We have lots of books upstairs in the original part of the building, in our ongoing Book Sale – fiction, nonfiction, children's books. Come browse, and grab an armful to restock your camp or household bookshelves. All hardcover and trade paperbacks are \$1 each, and mass market paperbacks are 50 cents. You never know what treasures you will find!

This week I've been reading William Kent Krueger's *Ordinary Grace*. It is set in a small town in Minnesota, and includes his usual excellent portrayal of imperfect characters trying to pull together. A good read. We have others of Krueger's novels, he is definitely an author to try. What are you reading while you wait for the tomatoes to ripen, and finish canning some raspberry jam?

Submitted by Mary Anne Libby

Vienna Woods Players

In **PLAY ON**, a comedy (1980) by Rick Abbot, a small town community theater group attempts to perform a play by a local amateur writer, whose ongoing script changes challenge the cast's patience, perseverance, and sense of humor; not to mention the story line. As this three-act play (Act I, Practice, Act II Dress Rehearsal, and Act III the Performance) proceeds, will it turn out to be a comedy, drama, or murder mystery? What could possibly go wrong? Everything! Every theater performer's worst nightmares provide a hilarious comedy from the audience's perspective.



Performances will be at the Vienna Union Hall, August 19, 20, and 21 evenings at 7:00pm with a Saturday matinee at 2:00. Current community COVID precautions will be respected. As seating is limited, reservations are recommended by emailing viennaplayers@gmail.com. The price of tickets is a donation amount determined by the patron. This is a play in which you don't want to encourage the cast to "break a leg", as it might happen, and they'll just have to Play On!

Community News

Fire Department News



Vienna Fire Department, Inc. meets every Thursday at 6:30PM but the following Thursdays are specifically designated as written:

Business Meetings: 2nd Thursday of *every month*

Training: 3rd Thursday of *every month*

The Department is always looking for new members! If you are interested in joining the Vienna Fire Department, come down to the station on any Thursday evening to learn more.



Thanks to everyone who braved the rain and made the 2021 VFD Chicken BBQ the most successful one yet! We are beyond grateful to be part of this community and are already looking forward to next year.

Recurring Community Events



Our community is beginning to resume in-person activities, with some modifications. See details below!

Mt. Vernon Community Center Café - Saturday mornings, 9-11am

Men's Breakfast - Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 at the Mt. Vernon Community Center. Small donation appreciated.

Women's "Juliet" Breakfast - Second Tuesday of each month at the Mill Stream Grange 8-9 AM. Pot luck breakfast plus \$2.00 per person. Gatherings resume on July 13!

Vienna Union Hall Association - Second Wednesday of each month. 7:00 at the Vienna Community Center (Nov.- March.) at the Union Hall (April - Oct.) Welcome new members.



To submit a recurring event for future inclusion, please email details to viennanewsletter@fairpoint.net

Vienna Woods Players
present



Play On!

A Comedy by
Rick Abbot



The Vienna Union Hall

August 19, 20, 21

Evenings 7:00 Sat Matinee 2:30

Tickets by donation

Limited seating ~ Reserve tickets at:

ViennaWoodsPlayers2021@gmail.com



Please be vaccinated or masked.

Vienna/Mount Vernon Community

Antique Fair and Flea Market



Saturday, August 28, 8 am to 1 pm
At the Vienna Historical Society Grounds
Hwy 41 in Vienna
Antiques, Collectibles and Junque
Lots of Treasures – Lots of Parking

FOOD

FREE SPACE FOR SELLERS!!!

CFMI 293-4815

TOWN OF VIENNA

Town of Vienna Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor -

Laura Church, Chris Smith, Jeff Rackliff

Treasurer - Kerry Casey

Town Clerk and Tax Collector - Annie Tibbetts

Road Commissioner - Dan Goucher

Fire Chief and Warden - Brian Church

Health Officer - Daniel K. Onion

Animal Control Officer - Donald Tibbetts

Code Enforcement Officer - Matthew Drost

Plumbing Inspector - John Archard

Alternate Plumbing Inspector - Gary Fuller

Addressing Officer - Tim Bickford

RSU#9 Representative - Josh Robbins



Office of the Selectmen

Vienna Town House

P.O. Box 38

212 Townhouse Road

Vienna, ME 04360

