

Treasure Island Report for 2023

Wrapping up its first year as a town committee, the Treasure Island Committee is pleased to present an outline of its activities in 2023. Through the end of December, the committee convened fifteen times and collectively volunteered hundreds of hours in service to the town and Treasure Island. As part of its work, the committee:

- facilitated creation of a Stewardship Plan for Treasure Island, written by Lisa Niccolai. The plan was adopted by the selectboard in the fall of 2023
- invited employees from prior summers to describe their experiences and recommendations
- sponsored a series of nature walks this summer led by Dr. Dale Gephart.
- helped recruit applicants for lifeguard and coordinator positions
- coordinated a spring clean-up day that prepared the beach and facilities for the summer
- drafted a Treasure Island Master Plan and presented the plan to the selectboard and town manager
- sent representatives to the Thetford and West Fairlee Conservation Commission meetings to discuss joint interests and the use of Treasure Island for nature programs
- worked with the selectboard and town manager on enrolling Treasure Island in the LakeWise program through the White River Conservation District
- identified invasive species and began to craft a plan with the town manager for their removal
- began cataloguing and mapping the many natural assets of Treasure Island and neighboring wetlands regarding future involvement of this end of Lake Fairlee in the state's Lake Fairlee Watershed Action Plan

The committee looks forward to an even busier and more productive 2024.

David Roth, chair, AJ Kemon, Luke Stepno, Megan Dubuque, Dale Gephart, Doug Tiff, and Jim Zien