

Cornish Conservation Commission
Minutes of Wednesday, May 23, 2007, Unapproved

Present: Jim Barker, Loel Callahan, Linda Fuerst, Bill Gallagher, John Hammond, Betty Miller, Rickey Poor, Jon Woodhull, Gabe Zoerheide (Chair) and guest and Mary Boyle

Minutes: Jon moved to approve the minutes of April 25, Bill seconded, and the motion passed.

Updates, news, announcements, mail:

- Gabe called Sandra Santaw (at Selectboard request) who is concerned about her bridge, which is downstream from the Jackson Road dredging. Gabe will follow up with Selectboard and visit the site.
- Nancy Newbold has resigned as alternate. The Commission recognized and appreciates Nancy's long term service and commitment. Mariet will take over responsibility for Green Up Day.
- The restoration work on Jackson Road is not working well; perhaps it needs some smaller rock. Not much beaver activity; move some from CREA land? Selectboard will support a committee to oversee beavers. A meeting with Skip Lisle was suggested.
- Betty made a motion to pay the \$175 NHACC invoice for 2007 membership, Rickey seconded, and all approved.

Conservation funds: Rickey described with a historical perspective the various funds available for conservation (how they were set up, what they've supported, donor intent, etc.).

Conservation Guide and funding priorities: The Commission discussed steps to take when a specific funding request arrives. One person, after making a review prior to a meeting, will present the proposal and cite how it fits or matches the criteria.

Funding request: The UVLT has formally requested support for the Tracy farm. Although the easement has been donated, funds are needed to cover staff time and perpetual monitoring. Most felt this was a very good use of conservation funds, as well as a way to express appreciation to both the land trust for its work in Cornish and to the landowner who makes the donation. Other projects likely requesting funds were discussed. Gabe will tell UVLT that the Commission is interested, would like to meet with them, walk the land, and get a copy of the proposed easement. A formal vote will likely happen at the next meeting. There was discussion on obtaining written permission from landowners when visiting property.

Discussion with guest: Mary Boyle is helping form an energy committee as a result of the climate change article at Town Meeting and presented several ideas for activities in town. She has invited Prof. Andy Friedland (Environmental Studies Chair at Dartmouth) to speak on "The Environment, Carbon Dioxide, and You" at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 20, in the Town Office. The Commission agreed to co-sponsor this event. Mary will talk to Bill about effective ways to advertise since the talk by environmental lawyer Thomas Linzey was so well attended. Mary's other ideas on reducing greenhouse emissions in town include obtaining enough compact fluorescent light bulbs for each household to convert at least one incandescent and an educational program on reducing idling.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Miller