

Cornish Conservation Commission Committee Minutes
October 27, 2010

Present: Bill Gallagher, Jim Barker, John Hammond, Linda Fuerst, Loel Callahan, Rickey Poor, Frank Parks & Betty Miller

Guest: Christina Varnold

Minutes: Loel asked to have the statement that he would be calling Bill Lord stricken from the record. He did not say that. Linda said that she would send a corrected version of the minutes to the town office. Jim made a motion to accept the minutes. Rickey seconded it. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Old Business

John Hammond reported that they have mailed the town's application to D.E.S. to install a culvert on Clark Camp Road. Frank stated that he signed the application for the Conservation Commission. Now they want more information. Due to the amount of water now, we may not be able to do anything until spring.

Apparently the N.H. Timberlands Association did not receive a check that was sent in April for 2010. We agreed to send \$30 for 2011.

New Business/Announcements

It was announced that the 40th Annual N.H. Association of Conservation Commissions would be on November 6th. Bill plans to attend and encouraged others to join him.

CREA

Linda said that Doug McGrath, Maintenance Coordinator for the ball fields, would see that the fields are limed and aerated. The Fair Association will be placing the posts in front of the dugouts this fall and putting up the fencing in the spring.

Chairmanship

Jim Barker made a motion to elect Bill Gallagher to chair the Commission for one year. Linda seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Easements

Linda reported that she has set up November 22nd & 23rd, with Brian Meyette, to walk both his and his parents' easements. She will send an email to CCC members with the particulars.

Conferences

Bill, Linda and Rickey reported on the conferences that they recently attended. All three of them attended the New England Environmental Education Alliance. Bill highlighted the Farm to School movement, which is becoming big in the area. Farms are selling their produce to schools. Linda highlighted what she learned about the importance of actually getting children and adults in the community out into nature in order to raise their awareness of the importance of preserving it. Rickey not only attended both conferences, but she also presented her Outdoor Classroom project, done in conjunction with other teachers and NH Fish and Game. Both Linda and Rickey especially enjoyed the Story Walks workshop and could see creating them in Cornish.

Christina Varnold

Christina gave an abbreviated version of her Antioch graduate school project. It involved using the state's blister rust maps to find stonewalls, cellar holes and foundations on Wellman Hill in Cornish, and thereby recreate the history of that area in the 1800's.

As requested at our last meeting, Christina contacted Sarah Bockus, the Practicum Coordinator for the Environmental Studies Department at Antioch to inquire about the possibility of having a graduate student help us with our Natural Resources Inventory. She wrote back to Christina that there most likely would be an interested student and encouraged us to contact her. She sent along a form for us to fill out.

Christina was asked if she would be willing to serve on the commission if there should be an opening in the future. She said that she would be willing to do so.

There was some discussion about Claremont's logging at White Water Brook Reservoirs. Troy Simino, a licensed forester, will walk the property. The selectmen also asked Frank Parks to come.

Jim Barker gave the Treasurer's Report. Loel moved to accept it. Frank seconded it. The motion passed.

Jim reported that the entire \$575 to help buy elm trees for the Eagle Scout project was taken out of the Conservation Fund. Since some of the trees were planted on CREA and others were planted elsewhere in town, we had voted to take \$180 from the CREA Fund and \$395 from the Conservation Fund. He said he would correct the mistake.

Rickey said that she would write up the guidelines for the Palmer Fund and the C.R.E.A. Fund. Jim will write up the guidelines for the Barker Fund.

Loel had some quotes to share for the three enclosed bulletin boards that we hope to install at the 12% Solution, the Cornish General Store and the Town Offices. He will continue to get quotes. He recommended that we have two additional citizens from the Cornish community to serve on our committees. Jim made a motion to accept the recommendation. Rickey seconded it. The motion passed.

Bill has been exploring the possibility of having the Putnam Farm become a C.S.A. (Community Supported Agriculture) farm, which would be an educational farm for children and adults. He has been in contact with Mr. Bittinger, who helped to develop Cob Hill in Hartland. Bill would like to form a committee to assist with this potential project.

Our next two meetings will not be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month due to Thanksgiving and Christmas. They will be November 17th and December 15th. Linda said that she would post the date changes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Linda Fuerst.