

**Cornish Conservation Commission**  
Wednesday, April 28, 2010, Unapproved

**Present:** Michael Meeks, Linda Fuerst, Bill Gallagher, Jon Woodhull, John Hammond, Mariet Jaarsma, Betty Miller, Rickey Poor, and Jenny Schad

**Guests:** Rachel Ruppel and Martin Bean

The meeting began at 7:00 PM.

**Minutes:** Bill moved to accept the minutes of March 24. Mariet seconded and the vote was in the affirmative.

**Membership & Nominations:** Michael said that he couldn't serve as chairman, because he is an alternate member of the CCC board. Betty moved that she be made an alternate and Michael take her place as a full member. Jon seconded and the motion was passed unanimously. Bill moved to have Frank Parks serve as vice chairman. John seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Maps & Materials:** It was decided that all of the CCC materials and maps should not be taken home, but should be stored upstairs at the town offices. We have a cupboard for storing the maps. There is a file cabinet and a box full of materials that will need to be sorted through and organized. We will need to find a barrister's bookshelf (a shelf with a glass front that locks) for storing the easement notebooks, as well as perhaps another set of shelves or file cabinet. Mike said that he would look into Dartmouth's sale. It was also suggested that we use Sclafanis & connectcornish. The following subcommittee was set up to work on this: Rickey, Mariet, Betty, Mike, Linda & Jenny. It was decided that the group would meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 4:00-6:00 PM until the work is completed.

#### **Correspondences & Upcoming Events:**

Michael said that we received a second notice for payment from the NH Timberlands Assoc. Betty said that it has been submitted for payment.

New CCC members were encouraged to attend one of three the NHACC regional workshops held April 17<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Finances:** Linda and Michael need reimbursement for the Saving Special Places conference for \$60 apiece totaling \$120. Linda needs reimbursement of \$50 for the two maps used for the CCC display at town meeting. Mariet made a motion to take the money out of the General Fund. Bill seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Committees & Reports:**

**Town Forest:** Mike reported that they had conducted a work session to remove the many trees that came down across trails during the big windstorm. They are coming up to the 10yr. mark when they will need to conduct a review of the Town Forest Management Plan. He also said that he had talked with Ginny Prince about the CCC working more closely with them. He asked that we include Ginny on our email list.

**Connecticut River Joint Commissions – Mt Ascutney Regional Sub-Committee:** Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> there will be an event, hosted by the Wethersfield CC concerning assessment of the Black River.

**CREA:** Many of the water issues in the hay fields have been solved with the new ditches and beaver baffles. More work will be done this spring to dig out the swales next to both the baseball and soccer fields. A work session will be called in May to finish removing trees that fell across trails. John reported that Doug McGrath, a new member of the CREA Committee, would be in charge of making a plan for maintenance of the playing fields. He also reported that the Fair Association would continue to have the mowing contract for the CREA fields and is also donating some bleachers.

**Saving Special Places Conference Report:** Linda and Michael shared some of what they learned. Of particular interest was the publication by the NHCC of a new conservation fund guide. These can be purchased for \$10. They can also be viewed on line, as well as downloaded and printed. Linda reported that they made an error in the book, showing Cornish receiving 0% of LUCT funds. They have corrected it to 60% in their online version.

**Natural Resources Inventory:** Rachel Ruppel from UVLSRPC went over their contract proposal. She covered the different steps that would be undertaken and how the CC and other members of the Cornish community could be involved in gathering many of the details to be included. Martin Bean, a graduate student at Antioch, was in

attendance. He expressed an interest in helping us with some of the fieldwork as part of his graduate study. He is available for the summer and fall. We told Rachael that we would discuss the proposal and get back to her.

**Updates on Lipfert/Hammond, Putnam & Farnsworth:** John reported that they are still waiting to hear important details about the Hammond/Lipfert project. Betty reviewed the history of the proposals that have been discussed concerning the Farnsworth property that abuts the Town Forest. Jon Woodhull offered to call the real estate firm to get more information about the Putnam property.

**New Business:** Troy Simino, selectman, has written a Cornish Road policy, which will be presented at a public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2010 – 7:00PM.

Jon said that at our next meeting, he and Jim would set up a new subcommittee to work on a communication plan. It would educate through connectcornish. It would inform citizens of topics to be discussed at our monthly meetings and encourage the public to attend. It would look into having a link on the town website where we could post our minutes. It would continue to find ways to improve communications with the selectmen.

Jon said that he would talk to Loel Callahan about heading up a new Forums & Events sub committee.

Mariet asked John if the selectmen could provide blue bags for Green Up Day. There was a discussion of eventually having blue and green bags, so that there could be recycling.

John said that the selectmen would be submitting the paperwork necessary to get 400 bulbs to place around town. It is part of the Green Up Day Program.

Mike said that a request has been made for funds to help Matthew Thayer with his Eagle Scout proposal, which is part of the Liberty Tree Memorial Program, to place 10 disease resistant elms around town. Matt needs \$1,150, in addition to the \$850 that he has already raised in order to upgrade to larger trees that wouldn't be as prone to damage. Jon made a motion to give him ½ of the \$1,150, which is \$575. Jenny seconded and the motion passed unanimously. We left the Source of the funding depending upon whether Matt agrees to plant trees on CREA land. If he chooses to do so, part would come from the Palmer Fund that was set up for environmental education on CREA. The remainder would come from the Conservation Fund.

We adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Fuerst