

Cornish Conservation Commission Minutes

January 23, 2013

Approved

Members present: Jim Barker, Linda Fuerst, Mariet Jaarsma, Rebekah Thomas, Jenny Schad, Dale Rook, Bill Gallagher, Pat Pinkson Burke and Frank Parks

The meeting began at 7:05 PM. Dale made a motion to accept the minutes of November 28, 2012. Pat seconded. The motion carried.

The closing on the Lipfert easement took place just before Christmas, with the selectmen and the Upper Valley Land Trust, in the town office. There has been an issue with the deed on the Hammond property, which is being straightened out. Once they are both finalized, there will be a public closing to thank both the Lipferts and the Hammond's for conserving their properties. Jim had a copy of the baseline data information on the Lipfert property. It will be placed in a folder and stored in the Conservation Commissions file cabinet with all of the other easement files.

The potential buyer of property on East Road has had preliminary conversations with the Upper Valley Land Trust concerning the placement of an easement on the property. Jim Barker attended the meeting and expressed the Commissions desire to work with both parties on securing an easement on the property.

The select board is budgeting the same amount as last year for the commission: \$4500 as well as \$800 for operating expenses. Jim has sent in the Commission's yearly write up .in the Town Report.

Jim said that we are still looking for the book Hard Road To Travel, which the commission purchased. The copies of Natural Resource Inventories/ A guide to New Hampshire Communities and Conservation Groups that were passed out to members, are also owned by the commission, and should be passed back in when we have completed the current NRI.

Bill reported that he had been to the annual meeting of the Grass Farmers Association, where he learned techniques for improving the land at the same time that he is grazing animals on it. There will be a clinic on doing fencing at their headquarters in Peterborough the weekend of May 5th and 6th. For more information call 1-885-327-6336.

Several candidates' names were submitted for this year's Conservation Award. The recipient for this year was selected. A discussion followed about how to present it at Town meeting.

The Natural Resource Inventory Committees, that still had work to do at our November meeting, reported their progress toward meeting a deadline set for the second week of February. The deadline is to submit additional information for the next draft of the NRI. Scenic Resources is done. Land Use Patterns is done. Public and Conserved Land has some left to do, but plans to be done by the deadline. Groundwater Resources plans to put

maps around town to get community input on ponds, vernal pools, springs and wetlands. They will see if Rachel at UVLSRPC can send them a PDF of a smaller map that they can print out. Natural Communities has not had a chance to meet yet. Neither has Wildlife Habitats. Outdoor Recreation is done. They would like to create a map of trails on public lands, Class 6 roads and snowmobile trails. Historic and Cultural Resources is done. Geology has not met yet. Rachel will be at our next meeting in February. Heidi Jaarsma and Bill Lipfert will be invited to the March meeting.

Bill made a motion to renew our annual membership contribution of \$50 to the Society for Protection of NH Forest. Frank seconded. The motion passed. Linda said that she would submit it to the town office to pay.

At 8:30 PM Pat moved to adjourn. Jenny seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Fuerst/Secretary