

Conservation Commission Minute  
May 22, 2013

Present: Jim Barker, Dale Rook, Linda Fuerst, Rebekah Thomas, Pat Pinkson Burke, Rickey Poor, John Berry, John Hammond, Mariet Jaarsam

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Chair Jim Barker.

As no individual member was interested in doing the minutes for every meeting it was decided that the job would be rotated. Jim took down a schedule for the next few months which he will pass out. Rickey will take minutes for this month.

The minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and some spelling errors were corrected. It was also suggested that acronyms be written out at least once before using abbreviations ie. DOJ (Department of Justice). Dale moved and Pat seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion passed.

NRI (Natural Resource Inventory) – The site has been closed to all except Rebekah, Jim and Rachel (UVLSPC) who will have access for editing and revision. It will be sent to Commission members for review along with a schedule. Rachel will return in July and it will be reviewed at that time.

Jim met with the Select board regarding planting 2 apple trees and a cherry tree on the lot next to the Town Offices. Audrey Jacquier is particularly interested in the cherry tree. The Select board was interested in having the trees planted.

Jim met with the Select board about compliance with the ADA (Americans with Disability Act) on Cornish's public lands. The Select board has requested that the Conservation Commission take the lead on making sure the Town is in compliance. Jim will contact the UVLT (Upper Valley Land Trust) to possibly put in a bulk order of signs that would help us meet the requirements. CREA open areas generally already have access and then each trail needs to be assessed. Jim will walk the land to do this.

Jim will check with UVLT on Conservation easements held by UVLT on Cornish properties as to who will make owners aware of the laws and possible signage needs.

Conservation Award – No local source for patches for the Boy Scouts Conservation Award has been found. It was decided to check on-line before considering other options.

Jim and Jenny checked out the area where DOT (Dept of Transportation) will be working on guard rails. Trees were not an issue and the request was approved.

Pat is planning on activating our 3 information boxes. He was looking for ideas to put in them. At this time of year invasive species seemed like a good topic. Pat will get some information and post it. Other ideas are always welcome. If you are at meetings consider picking up interesting information that might be used.

Linda, Jim and Steve Walker, CLC (Conservation Land Stewardship Program) were using a GPS to monitor an easement and got mixed up. She later called Steve Walker for help in using this tool. Steve would be willing to do a class for the Commission, perhaps the Plainfield Commission as well. Linda will get in touch with Steve about possible dates. Linda recommended that we get a GPS for the Commission and will ask Steve for recommended models.

CREA maintenance plan – Linda asked for feedback on the CREA Management Plan. It was thought to be a bit too wordy and should be kept to one page if possible. Members gave suggestions to help clarify the plan. Once the Plan is in place it should be reviewed annually to make sure it is working and make adjustments as needed.

Dale Rook suggested that meetings be taped so that month's secretary can review them when writing the minutes.

The state turned down George Edson's request to dredge his stream (from RT 120 toward the pond but not the pond itself). He has been able to do this before.

Rebekah moved and Dale seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed.

Rickey Poor scribe for May 22, 2013