

Cornish Conservation Commissions minutes for July 23, 2014

Present: Dale Rook, Paul Dunne, Steve Wilkie, Buz Lord, Bill Gallagher, Rickey Poor and Jim Barker

The meeting was called to order by Jim Barker, Chair at 7:03 PM.

Committee reports:

By laws – The first draft is ready to be wordsmithed.

Water – Patrick Pinkson – Burke has resigned from the Commission so Steve Wilkie will replace him as chair of the water committee.

Scenic Roads – no report

Monitoring – It was agreed that the Barker and Lenz properties should be the first ones so GPS and other procedures could be tested. Those individuals who can monitor that day should meet at Jim Barkers on Tuesday the 29th at 10:30. Jim will call the Lenzs and Rickey will alert the other Commission members.

Education – Paul reported that he hoped there could be programs on best practices and water protection. There could be 3 in the fall and 3 in the spring. Bird walks were also mentioned as was using the Town web site to inform the public of important information. The Commission's information boxes should also be used. There was some discussion of resources to fund programs.

The Town Web site construction is process and will be tested soon. Bill Catereno has been posting the minutes for the Commission.

Patrick Pinkson – Burke has resigned from the Commission. Bill Gallager moved and Rickey Poor seconded that we ask the selectmen to appoint Buz Lord to fill out Pat's term as a regular member.

There was a CREA management plan hearing earlier this month. Hunting on the property was discussed and after much discussion there was a straw vote of 30 against hunting on the property and 4 in favor of hunting. The selectmen now need to make a formal decision on hunting and if there is a change to allow hunting they must inform the State and get their approval to this change of use.

Linda Fuerst has championed this management plan and has seen it through to its proper hearing. Jim will write a letter to Connect Cornish to publicly thank her for her this work.

The Town Energy Committee, in conjunction with Plainfield's, has successfully completed their "Solarize" project with over 100 Kilowatts of solar energy panels being installed in the two towns. There were questions as to whether there would be a similar project in the near future.

Steve Wilkie shared an article about Lyme disease and using Japanese Knotweed as a possible treatment.

Bill Gallagher reported that the recent issue of Yankee Magazine had an article on Devon cows and his farm was mentioned and photos were taken in Rickey's field.

Since spring there have been 3 or 4 reports of rabid animals (raccoons and porcupines) in the area of Center Rd. and Harrington Rd.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dale Rook and seconded by Buz Lord. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM

Respectfully submitted by Rickey Poor, Vice Chair