

Cornish Conservation Minutes  
Minutes for Jan 25, 2017

Present: Members: Jim Barker, Chair, Bill Gallagher, Rickey Poor, Dale Rook, Steven Wilkie, Reyer Jaarsma, John Berry, Deanna Fitch, Corey Fitch,  
Public: Stuart Willkie, Bob Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 by Jim.

A motion to approve the December minutes was made by Steve and seconded by Dale. The motion passed as presented..

Financial Report – Heidi Jaarsma, Town Treasurer reviewed the Commissions finances. On Dec 31 2016 the accounts held:

Conservation Fund -	\$120,030.70	(interest for 2016 - \$686.72)
CREA Dev. Fund -	\$6949.45	(interest for 2016 - \$36.06)
Palmer Fund -	\$14,672.24	(interest for 2016 - \$92.31)
B. Barker Mem. Fund -	\$2,457.53	(interest for 2016 - \$12.81)

There will be \$2040 from the Town's "Change of Use Tax" which will be deposited to the Conservation Fund.

The CREA Barn Fund has \$180 which is from donations given in memory of Marie Stevens.

Possible CC members - Stewart Wilkie and Bob Taylor were introduced as possible new members of the Commission. This meeting was an opportunity for them to learn about the Commission and see if either one or both is interested in serving. Each person told a bit about himself.

Renewals for present members - Jim reviewed who had terms expiring in 2017 and asked Corey, Deanna and Steve if they wished to be reappointed. All indicated his/her interest in continuing to serve on the Conservation Commission.

Memberships – Dale moved and Steve seconded a motion to renew our memberships in the UVLT and the CRWC. The memberships are \$25 for each organization. The motion passed.

The NHACC's dues are rising to \$266 per year. We will consider this membership later and whether this is a good value for us.

Conservation Award – Possible candidates were discussed. A final recipient was selected. Corey, Deanna and Steve will work on obtaining the actual award which will be presented at Town Meeting.

Water Testing – Jim has the results and has shared them with a biochemist in Plainfield who has agreed to help interpret them for us. Once that information is obtained he will share the information with the Select Board and other appropriate groups or individuals.

Projects – Jim spoke a bit about the CC's organization and ways we might become more effective. Projects were discussed and added to the list of things the Commission may want to tackle in the near future. These included:

Easements

Education outreach and programs

Education Boxes (3)

NRI spin offs (wildlife corridors)

Fishing Derby

Scenic Roads

Monthly news/ education piece in Connect Cornish

Herbicides and utility rights of way.

The general consensus was to immediately reactivate the three Education Boxes (one at each the two stores and one at the town offices). Reyer will work at gathering some information on animal tracks to put in the boxes.

Other ideas will be evaluated later.

Town Meeting – Bill is working at getting an accurate “Conserved Lands in Cornish” map from the UVLSPC for display at town meeting. Information on scenic roads should also be on display.

Alternate Member – Stuart Wiklie indicated an interest in being appointed to the Commission. Dale moved and Corey seconded a motion to recommend to the select board that Stuart be appointed an Alternate Conservation Commission with the term ending in 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

Dale moved and Steve seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18.

Respectively submitted,  
Rickey Poor