

Cornish Conservation Commission Minutes  
February 22, 2017

Present: Jim Barker, Bill Gallagher, Vice-Chairman, Rickey Poor, Dale Rook, Steven Wilkie, Bob Taylor, Deanna Fitch, John Berry, John Hammond for the Selectmen

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chair Jim Barker.

A motion to accept the minutes of the Jan meeting was made by Dale R and seconded by Steve Wilkie. The minutes were accepted as written.

Bob Taylor is interested in serving as an alternate on the Conservation Commission. Bill G moved and Dale R seconded a motion to send his name to the Select Board for appointment. The motion passed.

Trail Finder - Steve and Jim will meet with John Taylor from Upper Valley Trails Alliance. He will help them load the Cornish Town Forest trail information on the "Trail Finder " site.

Water Testing – Jim wrote a report about the water testing and sent it to Conservation Commission members and the Select Board. John Hammond wondered when the tests were done and if that timing might have affected the results. Jim explained that they were done in the fall and not during the drought. Jim explained tests are best done during normal flow and these tests were.

There was discussion as to what the next steps should be including who needs to be informed and when additional tests should be done.

NHACC dues – There has been a large increase in the dues this year. Jim opened the floor to discussion as to whether we should continue our membership. Generally people spoke in favor of continuing our membership. Bill noted how valuable he had found attending the annual meeting in November had been and others mentioned the legislative updates. They have also been very active in the Northern pass issue. Steve moved and Bill seconded that we pay the NHACC dues of \$266. The motion passed. Jim will make sure the NHACC has correct emails for all members.

Pollinator Partners – Hanover Biodiversity Committee asked if we would be interested in partnering with them on the Pollinators program. We are now listed as a partner. There are numerous talks scheduled to be presented. For more information visit:

[hanovernh.org/biodiversity-committee](http://hanovernh.org/biodiversity-committee)

Town Meeting – Bill reported that an updated map of Cornish properties with Conservation Easements is almost complete. He will have a large updated map by Town Meeting. In addition there will also be a table where we can make handouts available. It was felt the following handouts should be available (and who will get the material): easements, (Bill), scenic roads (Jen?), Town Forest map (Steve), Trail Finder info (Jim), pollinator info (Jim).

The plans for the conservation award are moving forward. It was suggested that we begin to video the presentation.

Highway Budget – Bill asked John about the salt line in the highway budget. John explained there has been an increase in the price of salt. Also, he said that the select Board has received some calls concerning Town roads and that selective use of salt would help make them safer.

Cornish Energy Committee – Jim has attended meetings of the Cornish Energy Committee. They are planning on having an article on the 2018 Town warrant to make Cornish 100% energy independent by 2050. This would include electricity, heating, transportation etc.

Volunteer offer - Andrew Thompson, Deanna's brother has expertise in GPS and its use in the field. He has offered to help the Commission in its use and perhaps a public presentation as well. The Commission is interested in following up on this generous offer.

Commission Members- Jim reviewed membership and who was up for renewal. He will follow up with a letter with those individuals who he has not heard from.

Boy Scouts – Leo Maslan has spoken with the select-board about putting out wood duck boxes on the CREA property. They approved the idea.

March meeting – Jim reminded us that we will be electing officers at our next meeting. We also reviewed how best to organize our projects so we all are aware where we stand on them. Projects for next year could include :education programs, Monitoring properties, legislative updates, and the Commission Information Boxes that are around town.

Dale moved and Steve seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Respectively submitted,  
Rickey Poor