

Cornish Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
June 27, 2018

Present: Corey Fitch, Stuart Wilkie, Reyer Jaarsma, Jim Barker, Bill Gallagher, Rickey Poor, Bob Taylor, John Barry,

Not present: Deanna Fitch, John Hammond, Kimberly Patterson, Steven Wilkie

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Corey Fitch, Chair.

Rickey moved to approve the May meeting minutes as written; Jim seconded, approved unanimously.

Topical Reports:

- Monitoring Report (Rickey)

Meyette property recap: A few members of the CCC walked much of Peg Meyette's property, and many pins were located. The walk took more than four hours and included much bushwhacking and rugged terrain. Andrew Thompson accompanied the group and GPSed the boundaries. It is still the Commission's goal to create an accurate map of the conserved property although there is some discrepancy as to the correct number of acres included. Rickey will continue to follow up on this property including looking at the deed to see what information is contained on that. Reyer is working on writing the report for this latest monitoring.

Next property/dates?

Wednesday July 11th – 1:00 p.m. Jim Barker's 2 properties (East and West) Nydecker and Shurclift – perhaps Wednesday July 18th
White Swan Farm TBD.

- Education Report (Corey)

- June: Organic Gardening Workshop at Seth Wilner's in Newport
 - June 30th at 10:00 a.m.

Corey has placed announcements in Connect Cornish

Meet at Cornish Town Hall by 9:20 for those who want to carpool.

- Invasive Species:

- Knotweed: Mike Bald has been working at King Arthur Flour to pull invasives from their property. People are free to join him to learn about invasives and how to deal with them.
- Fall workshop potential topic: Beavers and/or Coyotes
 - Bill talked with Chris Schadler <http://www.projectcoyote.org/about/chris-schadler/> from Project Coyote <http://www.projectcoyote.org> who would be happy to come here and speak perhaps in the late fall. She charges \$200 to speak.

Bill also spoke with David Wichland, Jr. the mushroom guy who would also be happy to come here to lead a workshop. He charges \$350 for each of his talks, and he would be willing to come here most likely in the late winter/early spring.

<http://wichlandwoods.com>

The Selectboard has named Bill Gallagher as the town's representative to the Connecticut River Joint Commission. Bill also attended the annual meeting of The Connecticut River Conservancy which was held in Brattleboro, VT with about 150 attendees. NRCS had a display of different types of soils from different levels and how water affects each layer including the effects of runoff.

CREA Committee:

<http://www.cornishnh.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CREA-Mgmt-Plan-March-2015.pdf>

http://www.cornishnh.net/?page_id=797

Jim met with the entire Selectboard on Monday night plus Jimmy Fitch, Larry Duval, Dale Lawrence, and Wayne Gray to discuss the CREA property and the maintenance thereof. Consensus was that we should have a revitalized CREA Committee. Dale has agreed to be the Chair of the new CREA Committee starting in September. The CREA Committee will meet at least twice a year, most likely in late August and in April. Jim has agreed to be the CCC representative on the CREA Committee.

Banner for Events – Corey will order the banner.

Metal Plaques for Totem Pole –

A framed list of all previous award recipients is now on display next to the Totem Pole

in the Town Offices. Jim has ordered the plaques from Inland Products in California for \$200 plus shipping which will be installed on the Totem Pole when they arrive.

NRI Sections I and II:

Town of Cornish National Resources Inventory (NRI):

http://www.cornishnh.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/CornishNRI_2013.pdf

No changes are required to Section I as that 2013 Introduction will remain unchanged and a new Introduction will be written before a finalized version is published. A couple of minor changes in Section II will be made. For the July meeting, all CCC members are encouraged to look at Section III and take notes as to suggested edits, modifications, and additions. Jim suggested that when we get halfway through our revisions of the NRI, an announcement should be made in Connect Cornish inviting townspeople to review the document themselves and make suggested edits and additions to us.

Weed Wrench: It is now at the Poors' house and it will be made available for loan to anyone in the town who wants to borrow it. Perhaps we should have it on display at future educational seminars to alert people to its existence and availability.

Cornish Flat Swimming Area:

Back in 1975 the Town created a swimming area off School Street which needs to be maintained but is no longer happening. This area was created to be used as a secondary fire pond as well. As part of the agreement terms from when the Town accepted the grant from the State to create the area, the Town has an obligation to keep up this area. Stuart will take the lead on finding out the town's interest in this swimming area including contacting Valerie Newton as she is an interested party.

Four Winds Nature Institute:

Linda Furst dropped off some information packets from Four Winds Nature Institute and they are available for CCC members to take home, and some will be left at the Town Offices for others to access.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m. by unanimous vote.

Respectively submitted,
Stuart Wilkie, Secretary