

Cornish Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2019

Present: Corey Fitch, Stuart Wilkie, Jim Barker, Bob Taylor, Bill Gallagher, John Berry,

Not present: Deanna Fitch, Reyer Jaarsma, John Hammond, Rickey Poor, Kimberly Patterson

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

Jim moved to approve the February meeting minutes as amended; Bill seconded. One change: Bill's name is missing from those present at the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Topical Reports:

- Monitoring Report:
Nothing new to report.
- Education Report (Corey)
 - Mushroom Workshop - Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
 - The workshop is full at this point, and there is a waiting list.
 - Bird Walk with Jody Schubert - May 11 at 7:30 a.m., meet at Town Hall
- Upcoming Conservation themed talks around Town
 - Beaver Talk with Skip Lisle
 - Monday April 1, 6:00 p.m., Plainfield Baptist Church
 - Douglas Cygan, NH Invasive Species Coordinator
 - Thursday April 18, 6:00 p.m., Claremont City Hall
- Green display/communication boxes
 - Should we move the one at the general store to the recycling center?
 - Coordinator responsibilities – update monthly with at least some new info

- UVLT Annual Meeting Recap (Corey) – Corey attended the UVLT Annual Meeting with about 40 people in attendance. The speaker was from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Corey will forward her presentation to all of us. She reiterated the fact that things are getting wetter in general around here. She also stated that 1/3 of the total rooms and meals taxes collected in New Hampshire come from the seacoast area and should Hampton Beach or other parts of that area get wiped out or damaged due to climate change, it would dramatically impact that tax income. In her slideshow presentation she discussed a number of topics that Conservation Commissions might be interested in addressing at their local level. **When Corey sends out the presentation, we are all encouraged to review those, and we will choose one or two for us and the town to focus on in the near future.**
- Town committee minutes – Should individual members of the CCC start reviewing the meeting minutes of various town committees including Planning, Zoning, Selectboard, Historical Society, Library, etc. and then report back to us each month? **Each CCC member should take a look at the town website and choose a committee or two whose meeting minutes they would be interested in reviewing and reporting on each month.**
- NHACC dues – Jim made a motion that we pay our annual dues to the NHACC, Bill seconded. Approved unanimously.
- Electing Officers and re-assigning term expiration dates – we will wait and vote on this when all the officers are present.
 - Corey Fitch, Chairperson
 - Jim Barker, Vice Chairperson/Treasurer (2019)
 - Stuart Wilkie, Secretary (2019)
 - Rickey Poor (2019)
 - Bill Gallagher (2019)
 - Reyer Jaarsma (2019)
- Jim shared an article from Forest Notes, a magazine by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, that included a chart of the economic impact of town forests by county. Sullivan County's figure is \$6.5M per year for Recreation and Forest Sector Economic Contributions and is 8th of New Hampshire's counties not only in economic impact but also total number of town-owned acreage.

- Treasurer's Report (Jim): There were a few properties subjected to the Land Use Change Tax and the CCC will receive \$465 as a result. Jim also presented the balance totals for all the other funds under the CCC auspices.
- We should take another look at the NRI and incorporate the suggested modifications and keep the project moving forward. Jim will check to see if he still has the electronic version of the existing NRI. If he does not, then Corey will follow up to get an electronic copy so that edits and additions can be made.
- We should also revisit creating a wildlife corridor near the Park. This would involve conserving a few different properties but would definitely be a worthwhile endeavor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. by unanimous vote.

Respectively submitted,
Stuart Wilkie, Secretary