

Cornish Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019

Present: Corey Fitch, Stuart Wilkie, Bill Gallagher, Bob Taylor, Deanna Fitch, Rickey Poor, Monica Matthews, Jody Schubert (guest),

Not present: Reyer Jaarsma, John Hammond, Jim Barker, Cindy Heath, John Berry, Kimberly Patterson

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

Rickey moved to approve the June meeting minutes as written; Bill seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jody introduced herself. She saw the announcement in Connect Cornish and was curious about what the CCC is up to presently. She had previously served on the Commission in her 20s. She has been working with the Aging In Place committee in town. Has been living in Cornish about 45 years. Is supportive of and interested in the concept of Conservation.

Bill made a motion to have Jody become an Alternate Member of the Commission, Rickey seconded. Approved unanimously. Corey will notify the Selectboard of our decision, and Jodi will stop by a Selectboard meeting to get approval from them.

- Monitoring Report (Rickey): Monitoring will be done in late July and August.

Rickey explained the Commission's monitoring responsibilities of the seven properties in town on which Cornish holds all or partial easements. Rickey is embarking upon scheduling monitoring for this summer.

Corey downloaded some maps off the GPS that has been used during monitoring. We hope to continue to map the properties that we monitor.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19aVGdTipJpDkeN-VgFI3jY7SMU39YM2?usp=sharing>

- Education Report (Corey)

- Bear Talk - Ben Kilham on August 7th at 7:00 pm in the Cornish School Gym
- Climate Resilient Forests - Dode Gladders Wed Dec 11th at 7:00 pm at Town Offices

Rickey made a motion to reimburse Corey for the Bear Talk posters from the Palmer Fund in the amount of \$21.40. We will put out a donation box to help defray the cost of the talk which is \$390.

Here is a link to the CBS News story on Ben Kilham.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/mink-the-bear-was-sent-100-miles-away-she-returned-home-anyway-2019-06-27/>

- Upcoming events around Town and area:
 - Tracking Soil Health, Aug 3, Woodstock with Cat Buxton
 - Invasives Academy, Apply by Aug 1; Event Sept 26-27

Douglas Cygan is presenting a program on invasives for the Sullivan County Conservation District on August 15th in Unity.

- Display Boxes
 - Make new laminated signs that we can reuse
 - July: fire pond/swimming hole (Stuart will come up with something for the boxes)
 - Link for ongoing Box Ideas -
(<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c7W1cx2nZeLn13JNEr1sF31H6XQ5pHaqQwax494xzF4/edit?usp=sharing>)

- Town minutes report

- NHACC - Corey
 - Annual Meeting, Nov 2, Nature & The Economy
 - [Financial Case for Conservation](#)
- Selectboard - Corey – Troy Cimino has an intent to cut filed
- Planning Board - Stuart – no new meeting minutes posted
- Zoning Board – Rickey – nothing new to report

- Town committee reps
 - CREA - Jim (not present) Reminder: there will be a painting party and picnic starting at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday September 14th (rain date: Sunday September 15th) including a brief history of CREA, a brief bird talk, and also the Boy Scouts will be present; there will be a separate work party to clean out the barn so that people can go into the barn;
 - Town Forest - Reyer (not present) –

Here is a link to the Cornish Elementary Source Water Protection Plan prepared by the Cornish Elementary Source Water Steering Committee dated March 2019

- [Source Water Report](#)

- “No Hunting” signs at CREA – we need to take a look and figure out where we might need some more. Probably around the barn going east and near the soccer field (along Parsonage Road).

The area by the Town Swimming Hole in the Flat has been mowed, and it looks as if the pond has been drained and prepared for dredging.

Stream Table at the Cornish Fair – the facilitator isn’t available the weekend of the Fair. If you are interested in learning more about these, here is a link to the company’s website that has some videos. <https://emriver.com>

Perhaps we should think about a water program featuring the stream table and tie it in with a science project at the school.

Corey will send out an e-mail to the group regarding the culvert assessment in town.

Rickey made a motion, and Monica seconded, that the necessary amount to cover the cost of the ten Four Winds books be paid out of the Palmer Fund. Approved unanimously.

No meeting in August. Next meeting is September 25, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m. by unanimous vote.

Respectively submitted,
Stuart Wilkie, Secretary