

## CCC Minutes - 04.28.21

**Attending:** John Berry, Corey Fitch, Bill Gallagher, John Hammond, Cindy Heath, Reyer Jaarsma, Rickey Poor (ZOOM), Jody Schubert (ZOOM), Bob Taylor

**Guests:** Meghan Chapman, Upper Valley Land Trust, Sue & Jim Fitch

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Chair Corey Fitch.

### Approval of 3.24.21 Minutes

- **Motion** by Rickey Poor, seconded by Cindy Heath to approve the March 24, 2021 minutes. **Unanimously approved.**

### Resources Provided Prior to the Meeting:

[CCC Conserved & Potential Lands Map](#)

### UVLT PDFs:

[Selecting a Conservation Strategy](#)

[Conservation Easements FAQs](#)

[Donating a Conservation Easement](#)

[UVLT Stewardship Commitment](#)

[Megan's presentation from 2019 in the Town Offices](#)

### UVLT Videos:

[Conservation Solutions for Places You Love](#)

[Conservation Stories - Jim Fitch Interview](#)

### [UVLT Website](#)

### Megan Chapman, UVLT Conservation Project Manager

- UVLT supports 45 towns in NH/VT - since 1985
- Almost 60,000 acres conserved, with UVLT owning 6,000 acres
- **Land conservation strategies**
  - Assist landowners by buying development rights
  - Landowner donates development rights (tax deductible)
  - Support landowner by paying legal fees
  - Farmland conservation funding available from UVLT (\$1,000,000)
  - Conservation Commission & UVLT share costs
  - CC should keep some funds in reserve - \$150K available
  - UVLT can help with a fundraising campaign for specific properties
  - Consider town wide information distribution to insure equitable access
- **Outreach letter**
  - Tell stories of landowners who have gone through the process
  - Add reference to UVLT assistance opportunities
  - Promote benefits - farmland preservation, forests/connected habitats, water resource protection, schools/recreation, special places
  - Assistance with legal fees available
  - Suggest discussing with family members
  - 'Why', 'Who Else Has Been Through It', 'Benefits'

**Possible CC Actions:**

- Determine priority lands; send letter to owners
- Offer a monitoring training as a soft entry to land conservation ethics
- Use large wildlife corridors, farm soils, roadside lands as criteria for CC 25% target

**Dale Rook Memorial Tree**

- Tree was planted at a ceremony on April 24, 35 people attending
- Gallagher Tree Service donated their time to plant the tree

**Surface Water Extraction on Parsonage Road**

- Town ordinance covers groundwater extraction only
- State regulates impact on the environment, volume of extraction, and landowner notification
- John Hammond will report to selectboard and initiate communication with the company involved

**CT River Joint River Commissions Meeting**

- NH DOT wants to apply herbicide to Cornish-Windsor Covered Bridge vegetation and two other covered bridges in Cornish
- Bill will draft a letter for Commission members to review asking about alternatives, additional research on the impact of the herbicide and ancillary chemical content, noting that many countries in Europe have banned this particular herbicide and requesting a shift away from chemical vegetation controls

**Commission Vice Chair**

- Jody Shubert has expressed interest in becoming Vice Chair
- Motion by Bill Gallagher, Cindy Heath seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

**Next Meeting:** May 26 outside, weather permitting

**Cindy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Heath, Secretary Pro-Tem