

CCC Minutes - 05.26.21

Attending: Corey Fitch, Cindy Heath, John Hammond, Rickey Poor, Bob Taylor, Jody Schubert, Reyer Jaarsma, Bill Gallagher

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chair Corey Fitch.

Approval of 4.28.21 Minutes

- **Motion** by Jody Schubert, seconded by Reyer Jaarsma to approve the April 28, 2021 minutes. **Unanimously approved.**

Action Items

- John Hammond will post an announcement in Connect Cornish making the community aware of the laws regarding surface water extraction & link to state laws
- Corey will email the DES to see if other NH towns have created similar warrant articles
- Jody will create a Connect Cornish post recruiting a new member who has a water quality background

Surface Water Extraction

- John Hammond brought the issue of surface water extraction to the Select Board and subsequently called R.E. Hinkley Company who said they generally only draw from a couple of locations and that they follow all state regulations
- Hinkley talked with Lyle Parry about drawing from the Connecticut River
- Concern was expressed over water extraction during drought conditions; possible warrant article at Town Meeting in 2022
- Other companies have also been observed extracting surface water
- Important to specify the use of the [state drought map](#) in warrant article

Glyphosate Letter

- Commission members should make comments within the next week on the [letter to Matthew Bosiak](#) of the NH Division of Pesticide Control regarding spraying glyphosate on the two bridges in Cornish
- Letter was generated in response to a request for review by the [CT River Joint Commissions](#)
- Suggest adding to the letter requesting that the Conservation Commission and Select Board be notified in advance of future spraying operations

- Possibly include data on [health effects of glyphosate](#)

Commission Member Updates

- Stuart Wilkie has resigned and expressed appreciation for his time on the Commission
- Linda Leone has expressed interest in joining the Commission - she has administrative and monitoring skills/SPNF training, and is on the Planning Board
- **Motion** by Rickey Poor to recommend to the Select Board that Linda Leone become a member of the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Jody Schubert. **Unanimously approved.**

Connect Cornish Posts

- Going well, on schedule; next article on Scenic Roads & Scenic Views in Cornish

Land Conservation News

- A landowner is starting the process of conserving their land; expected to be complete in three years
- Another landowner has reached out with interest in preserving their land.
- New owners of agricultural land on Cornish Stage Road have a stewardship focus
- Letter ready to send to landowners - former and new properties targeting protection goals in [our Bylaws](#) agricultural, scenic, historic, wildlife protection & forest health, recreational uses, and water quality

Conservation Commission Award

- Harry Bliss will donate a drawing of his for this years award

Dredge and Fill

- The commission's responsibilities regarding dredge and fill permits within town were discussed as outlined in the Bylaws
- Corey mentioned he plans to dredge his pond this summer if the conditions are right. He has reached out to NHDES and since it is an agricultural pond, no permit is needed. He will send a note to the Select Board informing them of his plans.
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Standing Committees

- Jody and Corey have revised the standing committees as outlined in the Bylaws and plan to present them at the next meeting for adoption.

Mowing at Swimming Hole

- The Commission reminded John H. of the Towns responsibility to mow the swimming hole in the Flat
- John acknowledged that the Cemetery crew was having trouble finding the time to mow it and would explore other options

Trees on Gap Road

- Bill mentioned that a large oak tree on Gap Road had recently (and historically) fallen over and his concern for them potentially being girdled due to gravel build up on the roads.

Next Meeting: June 23, 2021 @ 7 pm

Jody moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Heath, Secretary Pro-Tem