

Cornish Conservation Commission (CCC) Minutes – 09-22-21

Attending in Person:

Members: Corey Fitch, Chair; Jody Schubert, Vice-Chair; Linda Leone (Secretary Pro-Tem), Monica Matthews (via zoom), Reyer Jaarsma
Alternate Members: Bob Taylor
Select Board Representative:

Absent:

Members: Bill Gallagher, Cindy Heath
Alternate Members: Ricky Poor, John Berry
Select Board Rep: Dillon Gallagher

Corey Fitch called the meeting to order at 5:37pm. The meeting was held in the Fitch family barn.

ACTION ITEMS (numbered by associated agenda item):

- 3.** Corey will follow and update the Conservation Commission on 200+ acre conservation project in town.
 - 5.** Conservation Commission will discuss the role of the representative from the Board of Selectmen at the next meeting.
 - 7.** Bob, Monica and Cindy will follow on updates to Conservation Commission boxes and “Notes”.
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DISCUSSION

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 28, 2021 MEETING:

Corey asked if there was any discussion or change to be made to the draft minutes of the July 28, 2021 meeting as posted. There were no changes or discussion. Jody motioned that the minutes be approved as posted, Linda Leone seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

2. ACTION FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (See “Other Business”)

3. LAND CONSERVATION IN CORNISH:

Corey reported having contacted The Forest Society about 200+ acres Cornish resident-owners are considering putting in a conservation easement. Corey offered the owners the Conservation Committee’s financial assistance with administrative costs of the easement.

4. NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS (NHACC):

Their annual meeting will be held on 11/6/21 on Zoom and in person. Corey said that The Conservation Commission will cover any costs for its members who attend.

5. CONSERVATION COMMISSION BY-LAWS:

The members agreed to have further discussion at the next meeting as to whether the Board of Selectmen representative to the Conservation Committee should have voting power and to clarify and finalize the definition of this role: alternate member, ex-officio member, or a non-voting representative from the Board of Selectmen.

6. LAND MONITORING IN CORNISH:

Jody Schubert noted that she will go to the Town Offices to read the original monitoring file for White Swan Farm; and will follow up with monitoring. Linda and Corey would like to be involved. Reyer will update about Meyette's land in the near future.

7. CONSERVATION COMMISSION BOXES AND OCTOBER CONSERVATION NOTES:

Boxes: Bob will add notice of dates of different hunting season dates to the boxes, and Monica will send Bob an article on fall blooming plants along our roadsides.

Notes: Cindy's fall article on trees and climate change will include information on what makes leaves take on different colors and a note about milkweed pod collection activities sponsored by the University of NH.

8. OTHER BUSINESS (including action items from the July meeting):

- Water Member: Glenn Griffin on Parsonage Road may be a prospective member; Jody will contact him.
- NRI documents: Corey will follow up on NRI documents/updates with Jody's assistance.
- Right To Know: we are posting meetings at the Town Office to comply.
- Planning Board Master Plan: Linda will continue to update as the Planning Board works on this.
- Standing Committees: Corey will follow at next meeting
- Education Committee: Jody reported that general activity Conservation Boxes, the Conservation Notes, financial support to 4 Winds program at the Cornish School (which is active again this school year) and Corey and Jody are volunteers for this year's program, and as a result of 4 Winds activities there will be heightened use of the CREA property. A longer term goal of the CCC is to meet with the Principal and science teachers to see how we might generate more educational activities or events between CCC and the students. Jody will coordinate a meeting of the Committee with Bob and Cindy.
- NHACC Handbooks: Corey will order.
- Glyphosate: has been banned in parts of the US. New book out by Chelsea Green could be a helpful resource.
- Award for Caroline Storrs: Corey reported that a garden-related Harry Bliss cartoon has been selected. He will follow up, using the Junction Frame Shop in White River Junction, VT.

9. **NEXT MEETING:** October 27, 2021; 7:00pm inside at the Town Offices with a Zoom option.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Corey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Linda seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 6:17pm.