

## CCC Minutes 2-23-22 Meeting

February 23, 2022, 7pm, Town Offices, 488 Town House Road

*Masking and social distancing will be respected.*

### **Attending:**

**Regular Members:** Corey Fitch, Chair; Jody Schubert, Vice-Chair (zoom); Linda Leone, Secretary; Bill Gallagher, Reyer Jaarsma, Cindy Heath, Monica Matthews (zoom)

**Alternate Members:** Bob Taylor, Rickey Poor, Glenn Griffin, John Berry

**Select Board Representative:**

**Guest (via zoom):** Brian Hotz, Vice President of Land Conservation, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF)

### **Absent:**

**Select Board Representative:** Dillon Gallagher

6pm: Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Corey led a google drive tutorial. Bob Taylor, Rickey Poor, and Linda Leone participated.

### **ACTION ITEMS from the February 23, 2022 Meeting:**

1. Cindy Heath swearing in by BOS: Cindy will email the BOS and confirm whether or not she was ever sworn in as a member to the CCC.
2. Conservation Notes: Corey will try to provide a history of hits on different articles for the sake of comparison and guidance.
3. CCC Bylaws Review: Linda will resend the correct Bylaws document showing the proposed changes.
4. Land Use Exchange Tax/Funds Review: Corey will research what other commissions do and get back to us. Any action would be timed for Town meeting vote in 2023.

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### **DISCUSSION**

1. Call to Order: Corey called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and welcomed guest Brian Hotz.
2. Corey introduced Brian Hotz, Vice President of Land Conservation, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNF). Brian spoke about a project initiated by Corey concerning 223 acres owned by the Cole family. The land is east and north of the end of Paget Road, adjacent to

the Yatsevitch conservation area. SPNF has been managing the Yatsevitch area for years; it is a rare and unique environment.

3. Bill Gallagher: Bill addressed the group, saying he is giving up his seat on the CCC and expressed how meaningful his years of involvement had been. The CCC thanked him for his service and commitment over such a long time and hoped that he would stay involved. He left the meeting at 7:32pm.
4. Approval of the Minutes of the January 26, 2022 Meeting: Glenn motioned, Cindy seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.
5. Confirm Glenn Griffin Sworn in by the BOS: Glenn confirmed that he had been sworn in as a member of the CCC. Cindy noted that she had never been sworn in. **ACTION:** Cindy will email the BOS and confirm whether or not she was ever sworn in as a member to the CCC.
6. Action Items from the January Meeting:
  - a. NRI workgroups: workgroup updates have been circulated. The March presentations will be "A Tour of Cornish" and "Cornish Today".
  - b. Conservation Notes: Jody and Linda are writing February and March articles respectively. Corey noted that the January article received about 35 hits on the website. **ACTION:** Corey will try to provide a history of hits on different articles for the sake of comparison and guidance.
  - c. Bylaws Review: Since the Bylaws document sent to members did not show the proposed changes, we will delay the review for next month. **ACTION:** Linda will resend the correct document showing the proposed changes.
  - d. Funds review:
    - CREA Development: Corey will review more fully how CREA funds are to be used, acknowledging that the group agreed they are for larger bridge maintenance or new things as opposed to regular maintenance and upkeep.
    - Return to 100% funding of Land Use Exchange Tax: **ACTION:** Corey will research what other commissions do and get back to us. Any action would be timed for Town meeting vote in 2023.
  - e. Land Monitoring: Reyer and Brian Meyette. Reyer is still working on this.
  - f. Subcommittees: updated subcommittee list was circulated. ([Subcommittee List](#))
7. Subcommittees
  - a. Land Conservation Strategy Plan - no report
  - b. Town Water Protection Plan - no report
  - c. Education Plan: ideas for 5 field trips linked to education outreach in CCNotes: -
    - April hoping to find a field trip to a vernal pool
    - May Jody do a bird walk in May on CREA
    - July a canoe trip to Chase Island
    - September Corey lead a field trip to White Water Brook conservation area
    - October have a program on bats/bat habitats
  - d. Land Monitoring: Jody, Linda, Rickey reviewing all files.

- e. NRI Plan: workgroups update was discussed.
  - f. Climate Resilience - no report.
  - g. Subcommittees: The membership reviewed proposed changes to the Subcommittee list, approving all changes. ([Subcommittee List](#))
8. NRI Update Status. Done, see above.
  9. Upper Valley Land Trust Conservation Gathering: UVLT will provide more details later. CCC may submit topics and challenges that may be shared among other Commissions for the gathering agenda. CCC topics might include: vernal pool mapping, climate resilience (do other Commissions have Climate Change committees?), Land Use Change Tax.
  10. Conservation Award Presentation for Town Meeting March 8, 2022: award will be finalized and presented by Corey and Jody.
  11. Conservation Notes for March: The CCC reviewed the Notes Calendar. Jody said that articles should be formatted for Connect Cornish with a 100-word intro for Connect Cornish and the rest of the article posted on the webpage should consist of approximately 400 words. ([Notes Calendar](#))
  12. Coverts Application: This occurs in a April/May timeframe, a 4-session program focusing on wildlife management. Jody has applied and awaits confirmation and details.
  13. Local Properties in Transition:
    - a. Quimby Property: Colleen O'Neill has bought this 80-acre parcel on Whitten and St. Gaudens Roads
    - b. Bill Ladd's property: Corey noted that the UVLT will visit the land this spring.
  14. Next Meeting: March 23, 2022, 7-9pm, Town Offices and Zoom
  15. Adjournment: Linda motioned that the meeting be adjourned; Reyer seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.