

## CCC Minutes 3-23-22 Meeting

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

*Masking and social distancing will be respected.*

### Attending:

**Regular Members:** Corey Fitch, Jody Schubert, Reyer Jaarsma (via zoom), Linda Leone, Cindy Heath via zoom), Monica Matthews (via zoom)

**Alternate Members:** John Berry, Bob Taylor, Rickey Poor (via zoom), Glenn Griffin

**Select Board Representative:** John Hammond

### Absent:

### ACTION ITEMS from the March 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. **CCC Presentation Materials:** Long-term project Corey/Glenn will design/produce materials and display stands by fall.
3. **Bill Gallagher and Jim Barker:** Members agreed to make suggestions at the April meeting for a special acknowledgement to Bill and Jim for their remarkable service.
4. **CCC Notes:** Corey to provide history of hits on recent articles; Linda will include current Notes schedule with draft 3/23/22 minutes' distribution. ([CCC Conservation Notes](#))
5. **Funds Review - Return to 100% LUCT:** Corey will explore how other Commissions deal with this and follow up at the April Meeting.
6. **Land Monitoring:** Reyer to continue trying to schedule a walk with B. Meyette.
7. **CCC Education Committee:** Jody and Cindy will update CCC on the Wild About Cornish Field Trip Series and on finding an author for an article on bats (Don Snowden is suggested.) and any ideas on a new way of featuring "Notes" articles on the Town webpage.
8. **NRI Update:** Linda will circulate the revised workgroup schedule( [NRI Workgroup schedule with links to workgroup folders](#)). Corey will reach out to Charlestown NRI and discuss their document process. Should we rename the whole document Natural Resources Inventory and Conservation Plan? Need to coordinate with our own Planning Board to at least reflect the Conservation Plan. Linda will send googledocs for each group and set up individual section folders.
9. **Climate Resilience:** Linda to send zoom links to NH Network's 2 programs on 3/14 and 3/28.
10. **CTRiver Joint Commission:** Corey will explore a new Cornish resident who's a possible candidate as a CCC alternate and who may also be able to serve on this river council. Jody will get more info from Colleen.( [CT River Joint Commission Mt Ascutney Subcommittee](#))

Discussion →

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## DISCUSSION

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1. Call to Order: meeting called to order at 7:02pm.
2. Approve Minutes of the February 23, 2022 Meeting ([Minutes 2-23-22](#)) Richey motioned to approve the minutes, Glenn seconded the motion, the minutes were approved
3. Commission Memberships ([CCC Members and Terms](#))
  - a. Renewals: Corey as Chairman and Linda as Secretary, terms both expiring 2025. Jody motioned to approve and Richey seconded, the motion was accepted unanimously.
  - b. Regular Member Appointment: transition Glenn from alternate to regular member. Linda motioned that Glenn be voted in as a regular member; Jody seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
4. Town Meeting Presentation Materials. Corey discussed ideas for display materials for Town Meeting and other events. ACTION: By fall he will design and provide 11X17 posters on water quality/testing, wildlife, eco habitat and purchase acrylic stands and or hand-crafated wooden stands. Also, Corey and Glenn will coordinate selection and production of map(s) mounted on poster board or foam core.
5. Bill Gallagher and Jim Barker: ACTION: Members agreed to make suggestions at the April meeting for a special acknowledgement to Bill and Jim for their remarkable service (contribution to a worthy organization in his name, summer celebration were suggestions.).
6. Action Items from the February Meeting
  - a. Cindy Heath CCC 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. She will follow up next month.
  - b. Conservation Notes: ACTION: Corey will try to provide a history of hits on different articles for the sake of comparison and guidance. Linda will include the current schedule with the draft minutes of the 3/23/22 meeting. Last notes did about 22 clicks.
  - c. Bylaws Review: Linda will resend the correct document showing the proposed changes. (Done 3/12/22) Cindy moved and Reyer seconded approving the Bylaws as presented. Bylaws were approved unanimously.
  - d. Funds Review, Return to 100% LUCT: Corey will research what other commissions do and get back to us. Any action would be timed for Town meeting vote in 2023. Corey will follow up with this next meeting.
  - e. Land Monitoring: Reyer will continue to work on scheduling a visit on B. Meyette's land.
7. Bylaws Review - Done, see item 6(c) above.
8. Subcommittee Reports: the list has been modified to reflect Bill Gallagher's resignation from the CCC. ([Subcommittees as of 3/23/22](#))
  - a. Land Conservation Plan. No report, the on-going focus will be on the Cole property. Jody will join that subcommittee.
  - b. Town Water Protection Plan. No report.
  - c. Education Plan-
    - i. Jody and Cindy will follow with the members on progress on the upcoming field trip series with a "Wild About Cornish" tag:
      1. April - Vernal Pool Field Trip/Linda

2. May - Bird Walk in CREA/Jody
  3. July 9 - Chase Island canoe trip/Cindy. To be hosted by Lionel Chute and a colleague- ideas include fishing, CT Joint River person to talk about invasives, NH collaborative coordinators to discuss the river from the indigenous peoples' perspective. About 20 people max. (contemplate a 2nd trip if there're many more than 20 people who sign up).
  4. September - Whitewater Reservoir Field Trip/Corey.
- ii. Conservation Notes for April 2022 -
    1. ACTION: Jody will follow on finding an author for an article on bats (Don Snowden is suggested.).
    2. CCC discussed a possible blog post for Conservation Posts on the web page, so each article would live on a separate page with a "Table of Contents" and links to the scrolling copy of each article. TOC could be updated and posted in the box. Events could also be scheduled on the Events Page of the Cornish Town website. ACTION: Jody/Cindy will follow up.
  - iii. Coverts: Jody was accepted into Coverts program through UNH. 4 sessions with a zoom intro and 3 field trips; she will report back to the Commission.
- d. Land Monitoring Logistics Plan. No report. CCC members are encouraged to attend at least 1 walk a year.
  - e. NRI Plan - The group decided to push back the schedule to allow more time, to create a workgroup specifically for maps and to consider any other reorganization of the overall update process as we continue the work. In terms of content, Jimmy Fitch and Steve Taylor might be good readers of a first draft and CCC will consider hiring a professional proofreader for the final draft. It was also agreed to consider use of color photographs where significant. ACTION: Linda will circulate the revised workgroup schedule with links to googledoc folders for each section( [NRI Workgroup schedule with links to workgroup folders](#)). Further general discussion will include: whether we should rename the whole document "Natural Resources Inventory and Conservation Plan"; the need to coordinate with our own Planning Board to at least reflect the Conservation Plan in their Master Plan.
    - i. Review of *Section II A Tour of Cornish (Corey, Monica and Linda)*. Document was largely "accepted" and shows few editing marks.
    - ii. *and Section III Cornish Today - Land Use Patterns (Glenn, Rickey, Jody)*. Document changes were largely unaccepted with many editing marks showing. This is the preferred method, showing all the suggested changes.
    - iii. Replace Bill Gallagher on workgroups: V/Agriculture (Linda); and X/Climate Resilience (Jody) ([NRI Workgroup schedule with links to workgroup folders](#))
  - f. Climate Resilience. No report. ACTION: Zoom link from past recording - Linda send it to all.
  - g. Minutes: discussion of CCC minutes: length and detail. Linda will try to make them more succinct.
  - h. Town representative to the CT River Joint Commission was discussed. The group meets bi-monthly at the Windsor VT Welcome Station. Bill Gallagher has left his post; Colleen remains on the Commission and suggested that someone from the CCC become a

representative. Glenn said there may be a conflict of interest in his participation, so he can not join. ACTIONS: Corey will explore a new Cornish resident who's a possible candidate as a CCC alternate and who may also be able to serve on this river council. CCC members were asked to consider the position. Jody will get more info from Colleen. [CT River Joint Commission Mt Ascutney Subcommittee](#)

9. Upper Valley Land Trust (UFLT) Conservation Gathering March 29, 7pm (zoom): Corey submitted these topics for discussion at the gathering: Vernal pool mapping, climate resilience, Land Use Change Tax. ([UFLT Gathering Registration](#))
10. Town Meeting March 8, 2022
  - a. Report on CCC Awards Presentation at Town Meeting: Corey presented CCC's award to Jimmy Fitch and Larry Duval to the great appreciation of all.
  - b. Article 5 of Town Warrant Was Approved: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,500 to be added to the Conservation Commission Fund previously established.*
11. Next Meeting - April 27, 2022, 7pm, Town Offices and Zoom
12. Adjournment. Linda motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm; Reyer seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.