

CCC Minutes February 22 2023, 7 pm
Town Offices (2nd FL.), 488 Town House Road, Cornish

Attending

Members: Corey Fitch, Chair; Jody Schubert, Vice-Chair; Linda Leone, Secretary (via zoom); Glenn Griffin, Reyer Jaarsma

Alternate Members: Rickey Poor, Bob Taylor, Julie Foote, Robin Kilfeather-Mackey

BOS Representative: John Hammond

Absent: Cindy Heath, Member

1. 7:03 pm Call to Order
2. Approve Minutes of February 1, 2023 Meeting ([Draft CCC Minutes 2-1-23 Meeting \(rescheduled from 1/25/23\)](#)). Jody motioned to approve the minutes as distributed, Rickey seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.
3. ByLaws: Corey requested approval of previously proposed amendment to CCC Bylaws in Article II, Section I, re: Membership ([CCC Bylaws](#)). The amended sentence would read: *The Commission shall consist of **not fewer than 3 nor more than 7 regular members** and an unspecified number of alternate members, all appointed by the Town Select Board. Members must be residents of the town of Cornish.* Rickey motioned that the change be approved; Reyer seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.
4. New Member Update
 - a. Corey welcomed Robin Kilfeather-Mackey officially as an alternate member of the CCC since she had been sworn in by the Select Board. He also noted that Jeff Plant decided not to pursue membership in the CCC due to other commitments. He will stay on the CT River Joint Commission and communicate any relevant news with the CCC.
5. Subcommittee Reports: ([Subcommittees](#))
 - a. Land Conservation Plan. Corey said that he will be talking to Mark Humpal and Brian Pinkson in late March and that there is no further news on the Cole Property at this point. Linda will email the Coles to discuss putting together an informal walk for the CCC members through their conservation area.
 - b. Town Water Protection Plan (Corey, Jody, Glenn)
 - i. Water Contamination Update. There was no report on the PFAS situation at the school. Separately, Jody reported that they are still working on coordinating a late March public education event on protecting source water with Justin Shaw from Granite State.
 - c. Education Plan
 - i. Conservation Notes - [2023 Conservation Notes/Events Calendar](#)
 1. February - Wildlife Habitat & Tracking Fitch Field Update ([Tracking Field Trip Flyer 2-25-23](#)) ([Tracking Field Trip Map](#)) ([Tracking Attendance](#)) (Linda) Jody reported that Martha Mitchell will lead the tracking event on Saturday. Linda invited any CCC members to join since attendance is not yet full.
 2. March - Protecting Our Water & Surrounding Ecosystems/Justin Shaw (Corey/Jody/Glenn) - see above.

3. April Wetlands Field trip for 4/15 or 4/16 [Laura Deming, Wildlife Biologist at Moosewood Ecological, instructor @ Antioch University, coauthor of Bow NH NRI](#) (Jody))
4. School Program 5/23 TBD [Susie Spikol](#) and [Jack Dalton kid conservationist](#) (Jody/Linda) Jody reported that she had met with Karin Denholm, Principal at CES, on February 15th, to explore the idea of Conservation related programs during the school day for the student body and teachers (or individual classrooms), perhaps on an annual basis. Karin was very supportive of the idea, and Linda Leone and Jody will assess the feasibility of the 2023 May program featuring Jack Dalton, the Kid Conservationist and naturalist, Susie Spikol as an all school program. Separately Karin offered to reach out to the CES teachers and parent volunteers to determine if there are adults interested in working with the CCC Education Sub-Committee in the future, a liaison to be developed in the 2023-2024 school year.
 - ii. Education Boxes/Update of the Conservation Award tree in the Town Office. Bob had new plaques made and got some extra blank ones for future years. He will install them after this year's award presentation at Town Meeting.
- d. Land Monitoring Logistics. Rickey said she will include Linda, Jody and Reyer in planning for spring action, particularly on conservation areas where boundaries are unclear (Peg Meyette, Neidecker). She and Corey will also research mapping apps like GAIA for maps with property boundaries superimposed. Rickey will also coordinate a meeting in April for Jody, Linda and herself.
- e. NRI Plan
 - i. NRI Sections are due for submission ([Workgroups - Updated](#)) ([Guidance for Workgroups Nov/Dec/Jan](#)). Linda will send Reyer access to Wildlife Section. Corey noted that everyone should stop editing the individual documents beginning Monday 2/27 at which time the individual sections will be compiled into the first rough draft of the complete NRI. The introduction, appendices and maps will be undertaken later.
 - f. Climate Resilience (Julie, Cindy, Linda). Julie reported that the group had met and is working on its mission statement, as well as a final name for the sub-committee.. The group has also come up with a working outline for the NRI climate section. Next meeting is already scheduled.
6. Other Business
 - a. NHACC Member Roster & NHACC Membership: Cornish Conservation Commission. Linda said she will update NHACC's records with current CCC members and ask that NHACC automatically enroll all CCC members/alternate members in NHACC's membership program. This will allow CCC people access to NHACC's members-only section of their website, automatic e-mails, and other opportunities for resources, education and networking.
 - b. Update on awardee gift (Corey). Corey is working on outreach to the appropriate person to create the gift.
 - c. Expenditures (Cindy) Corey reported that Commissioner Handbooks have cost \$60 for #3 (operating budget), proposed mileage @ 65.5 cents/mile and a meal for field trip presenters (Palmer Fund). Linda motioned that these expenses be approved, Glenn seconded the motion and the Commission unanimously approved these expenses.

7. Annual Agenda Items
 - a. Prepare/finalize statement for Conservation Award recipient for town meeting. Corey will do so.
 - b. Organize presentation/table for the School Meeting and the Saturday Town Meeting in March. Corey will prepare table flyers on field trips/water quality/etc., Glenn will provide maps, and Jody has reserved the table. All members are welcome to take a turn staffing the table.
 - c. Coordinate Spring Clean up / Earth Day activities with Caroline Storrs and Cornish Elementary School. No action planned for this year.
 - d. Coverts project. Linda plans to submit an application for the May series of field trips and instruction. Jody will share materials and information she received from participating in the 2022 series. Corey mentioned that if there are conferences CCC members want to attend, the Commission will consider paying for it.
 - e. Membership renewal letter from SPNHF was received. Corey said that we had previously agreed to renew automatically with SPNHF and 2 other organizations, and Corey and Cindy will provide a list of these organizations to the CCC membership for review.
8. Next Meeting - March 22, 2023, 7PM, Town Offices and Zoom
9. Adjournment. Reyer motioned and Glenn seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting, and the Commission unanimously agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm.