

## **CCC Minutes April 26, 2023**

Meeting was held at the Town Offices (2nd FL.), 488 Town House Road, Cornish

### **Attending**

**Members:** Corey Fitch, Chair; Jody Schubert, Vice-Chair; Linda Leone, Secretary; Glenn Griffin; Reyer Jaarsma.

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

**BOS Representative:** John Hammond

**Absent:** Cindy Heath

1. 7:00 pm Call to Order
2. Approval of the [Draft CCC Minutes 3-22-23](#). Glenn Griffin motioned that the minutes be approved as distributed; Jody seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Treasurer Report: Robin. [Treasurer's Report Q1 2023](#) For the quarter ending March 31, 2023 the CCC's restricted funds totalled \$208,661.64. During the period the funds have earned \$2,352.18 of interest income from the NHPDIP. This investment vehicle is maintained by the State of NH's Bank Commissioner and is offered to New Hampshire public entities, including but not limited to towns, cities, counties, SAUs, school districts, trustees of trust funds, agencies, authorities, commissions, and provides a vehicle for these types of entities to invest funds in a program that focuses on safety, liquidity, and a competitive return. The only other activity which occurred during Q1 included expenditures totalling about \$80 drawn from the Palmer Fund related to expense reimbursements for the Saving Special Places Conference and CCC's winter tracking events. Robin also reported that she will be reaching out to the Town to get the year-to-date history of CCC's Operating Account and will be providing a summary of those activities at our next meeting. Lastly, Robin noted that she will spend some time during the upcoming months reconstructing the spending history of these funds so the CCC has an accurate record of the types of expenses and for future planning purposes. And she will also develop a summary of the land use tax funds over the last 10 years.
4. Subcommittee Reports: ([Subcommittees](#))
  - a. Land Conservation Plan (Corey)
    - i. Humpal Conservation Area Update. Corey met with the Humpals and Upper Valley Land Trust for a preliminary and educational session.
    - ii. Cole Property: In response to a question from Rickey Poor, Corey will again share the cost breakdown among the CCC members. ([Cole Property Budget](#))
  - b. Town Water Protection Plan (Corey, Jody, Glenn)
    - i. Protecting Source Water - Presentation by Justin Shaw, Update (Jody) [Water Event Flyers-Poster 4-27-23](#). Jody reported that she has promoted the program at senior luncheon, ConnectCornish, the Cornish School newsletter, the Library, USPS, 12% Solution, General Store, and CCC's boxes. John Hammond will attend, representing the Select Board. Jody said that maintenance is underway at the Town Hall and asked that Commission members try to arrive around 4:30 pm to help clean and set up.
    - ii. Tasker Fund grant application for funding for Town water testing ([Tasker Fund Submission - Robin](#)): Corey reported that Robin Kilfeather-Mackey prepared the

application and it needs to be submitted by May 5. This would be for \$5800 (or about 11% of Cornish households) for future testing. Corey asked that CCC members review the document and reply to him with any comments by Sunday 4/4/20). Julie moved that the application be submitted on behalf of CCC with any additional revisions resulting from the members' review; Glenn seconded the motion and the motion was approved. It was agreed to wait to decide how and when to apply any Tasker Funds until after the Water Protection event on 4/27/23 and possibly institute an annual spring water-test event with refunding by any Tasker Funds that might be available.

- iii. Beaver Baffle: Corey reported that Wayne Gray contacted John Hammond to say beaver damming on Tandy Brook Road and Sunset Strip needed assessment and control; water was invading the road and backing up into the culverts. John gathered advisors and affected neighbors, and consensus among advisors was to try to lower the water with a baffle and divert it away from the road. Corey, Jim Fitch and Kyle Ackerman built and installed a baffle (visible from the road) and the water level began to lower immediately. The baffle will be monitored, and the team will look into flexible piping. This could be a project funded or partially funded by the CCC.

c. Education Plan

i. Conservation Notes - [2023 Conservation Notes/Events Calendar](#)

1. Wetlands Field trip 4/15 Update [Laura Deming, Wildlife Biologist at Moosewood Ecological, instructor @ Antioch University, coauthor of Bow NH NRI](#) Jody reported that the event was a success and wrote a [\(4/15/23 Wetlands Summary\)](#) which has already appeared in ConnectCornish. There were 22 attendees and a waitlist of 4.
2. School Program Friday, June 9, 2023 Update [Susie Spikol](#) and [Jack Dalton kid conservationist](#) (Jody/Cindy). Jody reported that plans continue to finalize and that the date had to be changed from May 26 to June 9.
3. CT River Kayaking 6/17 Update (Jody). Jody reported that kayaks will put in at the Cornish boat ramp, travel north to an inflow and do some water sampling to check for water quality.

ii. Education Boxes (Bob). Bob reported that boxes are current.

- d. Land Monitoring Logistics (Rickey) Jody, Linda and Rickey met. Linda and Jody will coordinate a draft schedule for monitoring in 2023 and share that with the group.

RE: Monette (Peg) property boundary pins: Using Glenn's metal detector, Glenn and Rickey found at least 2 of the "missing" metal boundary pipes, some had been damaged, but Rickey and Glenn marked them. They also recorded the locations on GAIA GPS. Jody will follow up with Charlotte Harding to ask if the pins need to be replaced and who would be responsible.

Yatsevitch 4/19/23 Monitoring walk: Linda and Jody reported that Jody, Glenn, Julie and Linda joined Charlotte Harding (LCIP Steward Specialist) on a 2-mile walk through the NW section of the considered area observing flora, fauna, soils, and practicing use of various GAIA GPS functions.

- e. NRI Update (Corey). Julie and Robin have read and commented on the draft, updated NRI document. Linda and Jody have read and preliminarily resolved many of the non-material comments (grammar, spelling, etc.). ([Master NRI Draft](#))

- i. At this point, Corey, Linda, Jody will try to resolve the more significant comments, involving individual workgroups as necessary and present a draft to the CCC members as soon as possible.
    - ii. The next goal is to present a more refined draft to the Planning Board.
    - iii. Corey asked that NRI Section workgroups submit photographs for inclusion in their sections.
    - iv. Corey and Glenn will work on a maps subcommittee;
    - v. Jody will work on appendices (Linda volunteered to work with her and anyone else is welcome).
    - vi. Corey said that the "Conservation Plan" will be a separate document; Robin referenced the Manchester NRI (which Laura Deming from Moosewood co-authored) and their approach to "what the community can do for conservation" instead of a separate and unique Conservation Plan document.
  - f. Climate Resilience (Julie, Cindy, Linda) Julie noted that a meeting is being scheduled.
5. CCC Website (Linda, all)
- For submission to Jenny Lipfert for April 30: March minutes; relocate 4/15 Wetlands Event summary w/photos & flyer to past events, and relocate 4/27 flyer & add to past events. Linda noted that when the 4/27 Water Event summary is available it will be added to past events, and the kayak event flyer will be added to the homepage as soon as it is available. Members are encouraged to make suggestions for updates/revisions to Linda.
6. Other Business
- a. Expenditure: Bob Taylor paid \$80 for the plaques for the awards tree. Jody motioned to approve reimbursing Bob for the plaques, Glenn seconded the motion and the members unanimously agreed. Robin will have a check written from the Operating Budget.
  - b. BCM Environmental Law - Amy Manzelli (Corey)
    - i. [Right to Know](#) RSA91-A . Amy and Corey will confit a date when Amy will give her legal perspective to the CCC; we will invite the BOS and other Town committees who all must function under this New Hampshire statute. Corey asked CCC members to send any questions to him to submit to Amy Manzelli.
  - c. Advocacy - Corey and Jody will review NHACC bills with CCC members as needed and contact NHACC. Corey asked the CCC if the chair and vice-chair would contact the NHACC on behalf of the CCC without CCC-member participation as necessary to meet tight timelines and the group unanimously agreed.
  - d. [Saco River Watershed Presentation](#) - Glenn reported on the presentation he attended explaining the partnership makeup of the Saco Headwater Alliance, which includes the Green Mountain Council, NH Geological Survey and NH Fish & Game. Their focus is. to prevent the fragmentation of streams and road systems in the state. This fragmentation mainly impacts water quality, stream and floodplain functions, and aquatic species. The partnership assesses and scores culverts in the headwater area, this is done by watershed not by town boundaries so multiple towns are involved. Above and beyond the Saco River watershed work and on the state level, the NH Stream Crossing Initiative (NHSCI) is a NH multi agency partnership that works to align resources and improve the management of stream crossing infrastructure across the state. This partnership is administered by the NH Geological Survey and includes NH DOT, and Fish & Game. This program provides training and technical assistance for stream crossings across the state. The Saco Headwater Alliance identified roughly 100

culverts, scored them according to condition assessment guidelines and marked about 1300 that need updating for approximately \$126 million. Funding is pending, but its source is the FEMA "BRIC" Grant. BRIC stands for "Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities"

- e. CREA Committee: Corey report:
  - i. Clean up day. 9:00 AM on April 30th at the barn. All are encouraged to help clean up trails (loppers and rakes are useful to bring if possible).
  - ii. CREA Committee membership: Corey noted that Dale Lawrence stepped down as committee chair. Jim Barker, Corey Fitch, Jim Fitch, Will Brown, Leo Maslan, Larry Duval, Wayne Gray, Rice/Decato Family are the current CREA committee members. Jody said that, with Dale's departure there was no representation from the Cornish School, and asked John Hammond to ask the BOS to consider adding a representative from the School on the Committee, even if that person is not a resident of Cornish. John said he would bring this up to the Select Board on 4/27/23.
- 7. Annual Agenda Items
  - a. Notifying BOS/Town Road Agent about mowing the swimming hole: Corey met with the Select Board. John Hammond said Mike and Steve Monette will help with the cemetery work and John will ask them to also help with the swimming hole mowing. Corey suggested the CCC make up a sign illustrating the historical background of the swimming hole and present it to the Select Board for posting at the swimming hole.
  - b. Book for Ginny Prince: Linda is still trying to get this book; there is none in print currently and she is trying to get a used one.
  - c. Upper Valley Trails Alliance: Corey said they included the CCC in a funding outreach. Corey asked the group to consider this request and comment. No further action was taken.
  - d. Virtual Tour of Website, NHACC member portal and Google Docs: Corey asked CCC members to come at 6 pm to the next meeting to explore the new website and have a google docs tutorial.
- 8. Next Meeting Wednesday May 24, 2023, 6 pm for early website and googledocs session followed immediately by the meeting, Town Offices & Zoom. Corey also asked members to comment at the May meeting on whether summer meetings should be held earlier and/or outside at the Fitch Farm.
- 9. Adjournment. Reyer motioned that the meeting be adjourned; Glenn seconded his motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned.