

Cornwall Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 21, 2019
12:30 -2 pm, Cornwall Town Hall

CC Members present: Mary Dodge (MD), Bethany Barry (BB), Mike Sheridan (MS)
Katherine Branch (KB)
Sadly missed: Marc Cesario (MC), Rene Langis (RL), Brian Howlett (BH)

Designate Recording Secretary - BB

Old and New Business:

- 1) Swamp Reclassification project – discussed 3 Steering meetings. Some of Salisbury landowners are concerned and opposed. Cornwall will consider phases for information-gathering. Americorps interns are available to assist.
- 2) Beaver Brook Headwaters Walk – Sat. Nov. 2, 12:30 -2:30 pm, led by Craig Zondag and will focus on disturbed habitat, habitat through history, birds, woods and beavers.
- 3) DRB – Cheetham application. CCC has some concerns on the sub-division's impact on wildlife and will submit them. Also discussed BBP.
- 4) Derrick Burt, from MALT came to discuss our goals. He's a Middlebury College senior, and interning at MALT, talking about the Strategic Plan, looking at and adding to data. 182,000 acres are protected in Addison County: GMF is 40%, VLT is 40%, MALT is 2%. He's made a webmap, which may be available through MALT. The highest priority is undeveloped forest blocks, as well as surface waters and riparian areas.
- 5) "Summer Migrants – Cornwall Birds" – Spring Presentation and Walk, which will include grasslands and forest margins. Date TBD.
- 6) Conservation Summit – the theme is "Investing in Vermont's Conservation Future: Vermont Conservation Design". These summits are always very interesting and informative, with many opportunities to meet and connect with others across the state! It is also VERY close – up at the Breadloaf campus, during Fall Foliage, and open to everyone. Sat. Sept. 28, from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 pm. Carpooling is encouraged. Registration through VT Conservation Commission's 2019 Conservation Summit.
- 7) Public Comments for Public Land Management – deadline is Aug. 26th, to keep our lands public vs. open for drilling, mining and logging.

- 8) CPC meeting, Aug. 21st. – discussing SFO for the Zoning regs. Ben Marks will be sharing the SB's next steps for the Zoning regs. MD will attend.
- 9) Outreach: MS will contact the new principal at Cornwall School. MS will review and update CC website, KB will refresh the Town Hall Display Board.
- 8) "Welcome Buckets" are distributed through Vermont Coverts, and we are considering it for Cornwall. MD will bring sample to next meeting.

Date for next meeting: Thursday, Sept. 26th from 8:45 – 10 a.m. Mike will bring tasty treats! Delectable focaccia with pesto and tomatoes creatively provided at this meeting by KB – yummy!

Newsletter: October '19 (September: KB), January '20 (December: RL), April '20 (March: BB), July '20 (June:??)

Town newsletter updates: April (due March: MS), July (due June: MC)