

Cornwall Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 20, 2022
Town Hall 12:30-1:45 pm

CCC Members: Katherine Branch (KB), Don Burns (DB), Mary Dodge (MD), Andrea Landsberg (AL), Kristina Sargent (KS) and Michael Sheridan (MS).

Recording Secretary: Michael Sheridan

Old Business:

Reports:

- 1) **Land Conservation interviews.** KB reports three done, more interviews to be scheduled. People seem to enjoy talking about land conservation decision-making in Cornwall.
- 2) **Marsh Billings Rockefeller National Historic Park Visit** by KB and DB. Not much to report b/c of illness. Scheduled a meeting with NHP staff. There is a horse logging program scheduled for the prospective dates of our visit, Oct 1 or 2.
- 3) **"Get Wild!" Blog.** KS presented the CC blog webpage. KS and AL went over format and structure of the blog. Commenting on the blog will require participants to create an account on the Wix site. Authors will monitor the comments on their own blog posts. KS and AL will be site administrators who post content and remove any inappropriate comments. Reviewed the topic forums within the blog. Blog will have matching posts on a CC Facebook page and Instagram page. AL creating posters and bookmarks with QR codes to promote the blog.
- 4) **Swamp Activities:** Walk (Thurs September 8th, 5:30-7:00 pm), Swamp brochure and Bug Workshop
KS presented poster to advertise the Bug workshop with Greg Pask, Tues Sept 6th, around 7 pm.
- 5) **Invasives Workshop:** "Invasive Plants: Find 'Em and Do 'Em In" (Saturday, August 13th, 9:30-11:30 am at Cornwall School, outside in their tent). Planning some demonstrations of tools for controlling invasive plants.
- 6) **Trail Camera Project.** Invitation to Jens Hilke in the fall to discuss wildlife connectivity and habitat issues. Possible Thursday evening CC meeting? 9/22 or 10/27 7 pm, but we will check with Hilke first.
MD reports that we don't have enough camera coverage for southeast and southern Cornwall. KS volunteered her house for a camera. We brainstormed some other people in that area to ask to host cameras.
- 7) **Planning Commission**

KB reports Planning Commission to hold public info meeting July 27, 7 pm (Zoom and hybrid) re drafts of the Education, Economy, and Implementation sections of the new Town Plan. A public hearing with the PC after that TBA, then another with the SB TBA.

- 8) **Emerald Ash Borer Survey, Select Board.** DB reported that Stu Johnson gave report to SB on ash trees. 353 ash trees, 4 inches in diameter at chest height, along Cornwall roads, many are looking bad. A lot of other trees need work as well to prevent blocking roads or pulling down power lines.
- 9) **Development Review Board.** No updates.
- 10) **CC Book Shelf Ideas.** CC members to make lists of book suggestions, with descriptive paragraphs. MD to review suggestions and organize the collection of books. The book shelf would be displayed in the main Town Hall meeting room and would be a part of the Cornwall Library system.

New business:

- 11) **AVCC Annual Summit in Fairlee VT Oct 15, 2022**
- 12) **Knotweed update.** It's baaaaaaack! Several small patches are growing on west side of the intersection of Route 125 and West Street on State-owned land. MD has permission from ANR to manage it.

Tabled for another meeting: **AVCC Handbook**

--Andrea: term limits on CC membership, incompatible offices, diversity of CC membership.

---Don: discussion of rules and process

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 24th, 2022 (12:30-1:45): hybrid in-person and Zoom

Newsletter: KS to do October '22 (due in September), AL to do January '23 (December), TBA April '23 (March)