

**Cornwall Conservation Commission Meeting Agenda**  
**Tuesday November 14, 2023 (7:00-8:30 pm)**  
**Cornwall Town Hall**

CCC Members: Katherine Branch, Don Burns, Mary Dodge, Andrea Landsberg, Kristina Sargent (sadly missed but we totally get it), and Michael Sheridan.

Meeting Chair: Katherine Branch  
Recording Secretary: Mike Sheridan

Approval of Minutes from October 11, 2023 – approved unanimously

Old Business

1. Inventory of Cornwall Habitat Connectivity Blocks (Mary)
  - a. Review of poster for Dec 7 meeting with Sophie Mazowita, PI on inventory
  - b. Fundraising is done for Phase 1, working on Phase 2. 7 grants submitted, 3 funded, 3 pending, 1 declined.
  - c. Sophie Mazowita to do tour of Cornwall town roads on 11/29
  - d. Outreach to Phase 1 donors to invite them to Inventory events such as 12/7
2. Projects for ARPA funding (Mike)
  - a. Bats on Swamp Rd. VT F&W does not want interpretive signage to AVOID drawing attention to the bat condo. MS to contact Nature Conservancy for their OK, then submit proposal to SelectBoard for predator baffles (approx. \$200) Major need for bat conservation is people power, not money, but VT F&W would welcome Cornwall's contribution to bat conservation
  - b. Science kits for Cornwall School. Teachers are organizing wish list budget for kits.
3. Fish and Wildlife planned acquisition of West Street property (Katherine, Mary). Draft letter to F&W sent to CCC members on Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, for discussion.
  - a. Reviewed draft letter to VT F&W, we will ask them to share their plans for the property, we hope to get them to host a public meeting about the area so that we can engage with some specific conservation issues

New Business

1. Logging activity on east side of Snake Mountain (Weybridge). Discussion.
  - a. we had a general discussion about the logging on the East side of Snake Mountain in Weybridge
  - b. This led us to wonder where there might be forests in Cornwall that have logging easements. KB to check with Sue J and look this up.
2. CWSP (Clean Water Service Provider) funding - tabled

Updates, Reports and Announcements

1. Reports from SB, DRB and CPC (Don, Katherine, Mary). PC is meeting with various Cornwall Town committees. Some discussion of building an inter-town Energy Committee.
2. Alicia Daniel program. Reading the Landscape walk. Reschedule date not yet set. Looking at '24 (Andrea). TBA.

3. The impact of Otter Creek Watershed (OCW) Insect Control District pesticide spraying on nearby bat colonies in Cornwall (Mike). MS to contact Barb Karle saying that we are interested in bat conservation, but that the Salisbury landowners along Creek Road (= the Salisbury end of Swamp Road) need to reach out to the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control Board to ask to stop spraying at the railroad tracks. MS to offer to write letter supporting such a move.
4. CC Website Update (Katherine) - KB has sent us an email (11/5/23) containing our prior website update requests and asked us to send any changes or new items to her by November 20th.
5. Information Meeting with Ledges property owners. Will be rescheduled, TBA
6. Community Science Kits (Mike and Don). Waiting on teachers to respond with specific suggestions. Sue will bring the idea to the Library Committee at their next meeting..
7. Addison Co CC Summit (Katherine, with help from Andrea, Don & Mary)
  - a. Everyone agreed that it was a remarkably useful event for starting to network with other Conservation Commissions. New ideas bouncing all around.

December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mike Sheridan, chair; Andrea Landsberg, recording secretary.

Newsletter: January '24 (December-Andrea), April '24 (March-Mary), July '24 (June-????)