

Cornwall Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 23, 2024 (1:00-2:00 pm)
Cornwall Town Hall

CCC Members: Don Burns, Mary Dodge, Donna Marks, Kristina Sargent (Zoom), and Michael Sheridan

Also present: Dave Guertin

Meeting Chair: Mary Dodge
Recording Secretary: Don Burns

Meeting called to order at 1:00PM and adjourned at 2:15PM.
Kristina and Mike left at 2:00PM.

Approval of Minutes from July 26, 2024.

Old Business

1. Inventory of Cornwall Habitat Connectivity Blocks update
 - a. Trail Cameras
 - i. Sophie Mazowita unable to attend meeting for update and review.
 - ii. Many cameras are set up and generating lots of data.
 - iii. After verification that they are functional, trail cameras are checked every two to four months.
 - b. Project Logo Design
 - i. Review of Donna's designs.
 - ii. Use for stickers, Cornwall Newsletter, etc.
 - iii. Possible inclusion of tracks and deciduous trees vs evergreens in logo?
 - iv. Kristina can edit and add text with Adobe.
 - v. Donna to continue working on design.
2. 2024 Work Plan
 - a. Fall field trip to Shelburne Farms
 - i. Don and Andrea to work on proposal and submit to CCC by September 6.
 - ii. Consensus that mid-October would be an appropriate time.
3. Membership Recruitment
 - a. Andrea's draft FPF post and comments.
4. CPC meeting request re: New Connectivity Map
 - a. CCC to attend upcoming September CPC meeting to describe new map and the importance it as a tool for town planning.
5. State & Town Culvert Map
 - a. No news.

6. Library Pass Program
 - a. No response to Donna's emails to Library Committee.
 - b. Donna plans to attend next Library Committee meeting to present concept.

New Business

1. Beth Hill CCC Letter
 - a. Mary to write response that the CCC is sympathetic to her concern and continues to work on the improvement of Connectivity Map to assist the Town in future development review issues.
2. Resident Dave Guertin talk about his photography and citizen science work at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies
 - a. Participates in ongoing Cornwall Swamp bird survey.
 - b. Meadowlarks. Working with property owners to schedule haying around grassland bird nesting season.
 - c. Whip-poor-will habitat. Calls on Snake Mountain at dusk during full moon.
 - d. Might be interested in giving presentation or leading bird walk in the future.

Kristina and Mike leave at 2:00PM.

- a. Fall CCC meeting schedule Mike unavailable for Friday afternoon meetings this semester. Teaching Fridays 1:00-2:00PM.
 - b. CCC will set new meeting schedule via email before September meeting.
 - c. One hour vs hour and a half meetings?
3. Cornwall History Day, Sunday, September 15th
 - a. CCC will pass on participating.

Updates, Reports and Announcements

1. Reports from CSB, CPC and DRB
 - a. CSB: Donna appointed to CCC.
 - b. CPC: Ongoing work on Zoning and Subdivision regulations.
 - c. DRB: No news.
2. CORA Project
 - a. CORA is still in a holding pattern until they understand exactly what will be needed for the stormwater plan and state permit.
3. AVCC 2024 Annual Summit (Amplifying Voices: 12:00 pm on Thursday, September 5th) and the Vermont Statewide Conservation Conference, VT State College, Randolph on October 7th
 - a. Andrea to attend both meetings.
 - b. CCC will cover registration costs for members.

Next Meetings and Newsletters:

To determine new meeting times via email based on Kristina and Mike's schedules.

Meeting: **September**, Andrea: Meeting Chair, Mary: Recording Secretary
October, Mike: Meeting Chair, Andrea: Recording Secretary

Newsletter (pdf, 2 pages or less): November '24 (October-Mary), February '25 (January-Andrea)