

**Cornwall Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday September 26, 2024 (3:30-4:30 pm)**  
**Cornwall Town Hall**

CCC Members in attendance: Don Burns, Mary Dodge, Andrea Landsberg, Donna Marks, Kristina Sargent, and Michael Sheridan

Meeting Chair: Andrea Landsberg    Recording Secretary: Mary Dodge  
Meeting called to order at 2:30 pm and adjourned at 3:28 pm.

Approval of minutes from August 23, 2024

Old Business

1. Inventory of Cornwall Habitat Connectivity Blocks Logo  
Reviewed sample logos and selected the one that Donna will use in making final modifications. How could the Logo be used: t-shirts, stickers, printed matter.
2. 2024 Work Plan  
Fall fieldtrip to Shelburne Farms was approved (October 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-12:00). 3-part program focusing on the history and management of the Farm and its woodlands and the Farm's vision for an ecologically viable landscape. Tre McCarney will coordinate the tour: a maximum of 20 people with priority given to Cornwall residents. No cost to CC. Don and Andrea will organize.
3. Membership Recruitment  
No response to FPF posting.
4. CPC meeting presentation on New Habitat Connectivity Map  
Mary reported on her presentation to the CPC of the Inventory's Connectivity Map, developed from the new F&W data layers.
5. State & Town Culvert Map  
No report, this will be tabled from the agenda for six months.
6. Library Pass Program  
Donna has emailed the Library Committee again and is waiting to hear back regarding increasing the options for free or discounted passes available to town residents for conservation-oriented sites. She will contact Sue Johnson directly.

New Business

1. Beth Hill Letter and the CC response  
Mary shared the letter (9-19-24) she sent to Beth Hill in response to Beth's letter to the CC of 8-1-24. Beth also made a suggestion that information about the habitat needs of wildlife be available alongside the other zoning application materials for people planning to

build a new home. She proposed “Making Room for Wildlife,” a publication from Wildlife Conservation Society, as a model. It is already on the CC website page, in the Resources Section, and a copy is on the CC Bulletin Board. We will continue to discuss her recommendation at the next CC meeting after having a chance to review this publication. <https://library.wcs.org/Scientific-Research/Research-Publications/Publications-Library/ctl/view/mid/40093/pubid/DMX1406100000.aspx>

2. Status review of "Get Wild" Blog and CC Instagram/Facebook activity  
Andrea and Kristina reviewed the history of the Blog, its current status, the creation of the CC Instagram page, and the town’s interest and usage. The Blog is still assessable to viewers but no new content is being added. There has been no activity on Instagram. Andrea and Kristina will bring Blog viewing numbers to the next meeting.

#### Updates, Reports and Announcements

1. Reports from CSB, CPC and DRB  
Road Foreman has resigned.
2. CORA Project  
Andrea will set up a soil testing demonstration for the public at Town Hall, before moving with volunteers to help test the soil at the CORA site.
3. AVCC 2024 Annual Summit (Amplifying Voices: 12:00 pm on Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>) and the Vermont Statewide Conservation Conference, State College, Randolph on October 7<sup>th</sup>  
Mary and Andrea attended the AVCC (Zoom) Summit. Andrea has registered for the Statewide Conference in Randolph.
4. Bat House  
The CC is continuing its efforts to support bat colonies in Cornwall.

#### Next Meetings and Newsletters:

Meeting days are the second Thursday of month through December at 3:30PM

October 10<sup>th</sup> – Kristina: Meeting Chair, Andrea: Recording Secretary

November 14<sup>th</sup> – Michael: Meeting Chair, Kristina: Recording Secretary

December 12<sup>th</sup> – Donna: Meeting Chair, Michael: Recording Secretary

Newsletter (pdf, 1 page): November '24 (October-Mary), February '25 (January-Andrea)