

**Cornwall Conservation Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday November 14, 2024 (3:30-4:30 pm)**  
**Cornwall Town Hall**

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

Also in attendance: Rex Chamberlain

Meeting Chair: Mike Sheridan; Recording Secretary: Kristina Sargent

Call to order 3:32

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86085163309?pwd=fT5HyF6T2QtX8vk5qbcoJWwp8HXix8.1>  
Meeting ID: 860 8516 3309 Passcode: 1234

Approval of Minutes from October 10, 2024 Approved

Old Business

1. Inventory of Cornwall Habitat Connectivity Blocks updates (Mary, Donna)
  - i) Zoom for Inventory volunteers scheduled for Tuesday, the 19th at 7pm to share what we've captured on Inventory cameras
  - ii) CC members invited to attend. Sophie will share slides of what has been found and answer questions
    - (1) 11 volunteers working with trail cameras so far for this year
    - (2) Sophie has not submitted for Phase 2 field work yet. Inventory is currently on budget. Mary will bring details to next meeting
  - iii) Logo update – Donna
    - (1) Beautiful logo reveal!
      - (a) Mary suggested that adding more trees would better depict habitat connectivity
    - (2) Pittsford t-shirt quote
      - (a) 1 color, 12 shirt minimum \$14/shirt; \$20 fixed cost; at 30 it's \$13, cost varies by shirt quality
      - (b) Andrea brought up FOCs recent fundraising as example
      - (c) 3-4 week turnaround
    - (3) Will talk next time about what we're doing with it
      - (a) Sophie can use for presentations, website, FB/Insta profiles, t-shirts? stickers?
2. "Make Room for Wildlife" resource suggested by Beth Hill (All)
  - a) Conversation with Cornwall ZA Lynn Coale (Don/Mary) about making pamphlet available in zoning materials (with cover letter)
    - i) Lynn comfortable to include this in his packet for permitting and putting on zoning administrator website

- ii) Mary and Don will draft cover letter and distribute to CCC for approval/discussion
  - b) Communications should note:
    - i) How these practices follow goals in our current Town Plan
    - ii) How following these guidelines could enhance property values
    - iii) how this applies to Cornwall
    - iv) Need to change birdfeeder dates (March-December), note written in 2013, CCC would be happy to help applicant with information gathering
  - c) Send to local architects? and newsletter
- 3. 2024 Work Plan – any updates?
  - 1. Mary: Jericho CCC has an annual bird walk. Would Cornwall want to have a spring birdwalk; maybe Natalia Perchemlides or David Guertin for 2025? Jim Andrews? OCAS? Ian Worley?
  - 2. Next meeting: begin thinking for 2025, add to next meeting agenda
    - a. Amphibian monitoring work (Alexis Mychajliw at College? Kristi Tolgesi? Donna?)
- 4. Membership Recruitment (All)
  - a) Mike wrote up an amusing note for Laura to send out on Town email list +/- FPF. Note done; distributed 11/7
    - 1. Rex is here!
    - 2. Kristina posted on FPF, Mike will send to Laura for distribution to town list
  - b) Don – suggestion to stage an open house with refreshments
    - i. On Earth Day? Or Green Up Day?
    - ii. Continue to brainstorm this at next meeting
      - 1. Table for next meeting
- 5. Library Pass Program (Donna)
  - a) Update from Library Committee meeting
    - 1. Donna met on Oct 25: receptive, Rich Isenberg suggested funding ~\$250/yr with some funding from CCC?
    - 2. Sue is going to call people on Donna's list to set up
    - 3. Mike: if matching, is that seed money into a project to test demand to put on Town Meeting for a new item on Town Budget- CCC will pay for the pilot, if there's demand, pass onto town- petitions by end of January 2026
- 6. CC FB/Instagram link location on website
  - 1. Mary sent emails to Forum posters about the Blog's ending
  - 2. Update Town Home page link to blog to be instagram; CCC page Recent Activities- make two (one for Facebook and one for Instagram)
  - 3. Donna is working with Emily May; Kristina will work with Donna offline to get info to Emily for next update

7. State Municipal Day on Nov 1st in Montpelier – any updates?  
Andred Did not attend Municipal day but did participate in a webinar with Jens Hilke: Gray and Green Infrastructure: How Vermont's bridges and culverts add to our network of connected lands and waters. Will write up a brief summary for the group
  
8. Cornwall Swamp bat condo update (Mike)  
Most successful, only occupied bat house in the state of Vermont!  
Mike added new smaller houses and anti-owl spikes

#### New Business

#### Updates, Reports and Announcements

1. Reports from CSB, CPC and DRB (Don, Mary)
  - a. None
2. CORA Project (Andrea)  
Going well, stormwater remediation permit approved! cost estimate pending  
SB v supportive  
Andrea working to get a new tree grant  
Groundbreaking “celebration” sometime this month
3. Newsletter guidelines (Kristina)
  - a. Waiting to hear back on clarification from town clerk
  - a. Open questions about: are photos okay, why just electronic now, what limit on content?
  - c. Kristina will reach out again to Laura again for clarification  
Kristina still waiting; Mike is taking over  
Newsletter is not part of Clerk job description- can SB add it?  
Andrea is talking to Sue to organize support

#### Next Meetings and Newsletters:

Second Thursday of month through December at 3:30PM

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

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

Moved and seconded to adjourn 4:32