

Cornwall Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 13, 2025 (4:00-5:00 pm)

Cornwall Town Hall

CCC Members in Attendance: Don Burns, Rex Chamberlain, Dan Comar, Mary Dodge, Alex Harden, Andrea Landsberg, Donna Marks, and Kristina Sargent.

Meeting Chair: Andrea Landsberg Recording Secretary: Mary Dodge

Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2025.

Old Business

- 1) Inventory of Cornwall Habitat Connectivity Blocks (Mary)
 - a) No change from last month. Cameras and tracking ongoing.
- 2) Logo Update: Discussion of Future Uses (Donna)
 - a) Decided to give out Logo stickers as a “thank you” to volunteers helping with Inventory cameras and tracking and to amphibian escort volunteers.
- 3) CC input to CPC in its update of the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations. (Don, Mary)
 - a) Don reported on the Planning Commission’s work on the Zoning update and encouraged the CC to provide input on natural resource-related items. Articles I-V have been revised. Articles VI, VII and VIII next up. They hope to complete their initial work with the Zoning Regulations by July. Don suggested the CC work to develop a Special Features Overlay Map as called for in the Town Plan, which the CPC could then consider. The map and its integration into the zoning bylaws is a time intensive effort. Kristina and Mary will create a structure for the CC to accomplish this task.
 - b) Don specifically requested additional content (definition for landscaping) for ‘Section 550 Landscaping’. Andrea agreed to take the Landscaping piece on.
- 4) 2025 Upcoming Activities (All)
 - a) Amphibian Monitoring(Mary, Dan)
 - i) Logistics/Orientation meeting rescheduled for March 16th.
 - b) May Green Up Day CCC Table (Kristina)
 - i) Saturday May 3rd.
 - ii) Decided that the location of CC table should be close to the Recreation Committee’s Food Table. Andrea, Dan and Mary have offered to help with the table. Kristina will oversee the Swamp Clean Up team.
 - c) OCAS/Cornwall Bird Walk
 - i) No additional information on June 1st morning birding walk on Scove Hill.

- d) Community Survey (Andrea, Alex)
 - i) Limited response to Survey to date. Alex will advertise it on FPF, the town email list, etc.
- e) Wildlife Crossings and Road Infrastructure Study. (Mary, Don, Dan and Rex)
 - i) An assessment of Cornwall road culverts and bridges and the landscape features near these areas will be completed this spring by a Middlebury College student. Her study will focus on places identified in the Inventory as potential wildlife crossing areas.
- f) Energy Navigator Project Update (Alex)
 - i) The workshop is scheduled for May 14th - 5:30 for food and conversation, 6pm for start of workshop. It will take place at Town Hall.

New Business

- 1) Days/Time for CC Meetings May-August (All)
 - a) Current time of second Thursday of each month at 4:00-5:00PM for meetings will continue through May.
- 2) April Newsletter content (All)
 - a) Donna received suggestions for content including information about the Survey, Green Up activities, Energy Workshop and Amphibian crossing work. Mary will email Laura's guidelines to Donna.

Updates, Reports and Announcements

- 1) Reports from CSB, CPC and DRB (Don, Mary)
- 2) CORA Project (Andrea)
 - a) 36 trees are scheduled for planting. The majority are native to this area. Groundbreaking on April 12th, 1-2
- 3) Recreation Committee Roadside Tracking Invitation (Mary)
 - a) A couple people hope to attend the tracking event on Saturday March 29th, but no one said they had time to help with the event planning.

Next Meetings:

April 10 - Kristina: Meeting Chair, Andrea: Recording Secretary

May 8 - Don: Meeting Chair, Kristina: Recording Secretary

June 12 - Rex Meeting Chair, Don: Recording Secretary

July 10 - Alex Meeting Chair, Rex: Recording Secretary

Newsletter: April '25 (March-Donna), July '25 (June-Kristina), October '25 (September-Mike)