



Cornwall Conservation Commission

Minutes of the Meeting of March 12, 2020 held 10:30 am, at the Cornwall Library

Commissioners in attendance: Patrick Mulberry, Katherine Freygang and Debby Bennett. Margie Purnell, member of the public was present.

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 am

The minutes of the special meeting of February 13, 2020 were approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Katie Freygang reported that the commission has \$1450 in its account for fiscal year 2019/2020
- The commission approved a motion to spend \$1000 as an initial payment towards hiring HVA to create a Horizon Line map.
- See below for the results of the CCC budget request for 2020/2021

COMPLIING A LIST OF PLACES OF PRIORITY PROTECTION

Patrick reported the outcome of a meeting held with Gordon Ridgway to lobby for the Conservation Commission's 2020/2021 budget request of \$5000 to allow the commission to hire a planning consultant to generate a List of Cornwall Places for Priority Protection. Gordon instead suggested that the newly hired town planner, Janelle Mullen, be available to assist the commission develop the methodology to identify priority places.

Katie and Margie suggested that before the commission meets with Janelle, that Patrick draft an initial outline of objective criteria and subjective principles/values to guide the commission in its efforts to define the methodology to be employed when evaluating sites and features deemed noteworthy.

RIDGELINE PROTECTION MAP

Margie Purnell confirmed the estimated cost of the map to be approximately \$2800.

The commission discussed how to fund the cost of producing a map identifying ridgeline protection zones. As mentioned above, the commission voted to use a portion of this year's remaining budget. The remaining funds would then be solicited from other organizations in town such as the Conservation Land Trust, the Cornwall Foundation via the Cornwall Association.

Debby will start a draft letter soliciting funds from the Cornwall Foundation, to be commented on by the rest of the commission.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY:

Discussion of the NRI addressed:

- Debby and Margie will cooperate to further refine and wrap up the Forestry Resources chapter of the NRI, and will update the Forest Threats portion of the chapter
- Margie said she expects a more complete draft of the Forestry section in the next few weeks and will distribute a draft approximately one week before our next meeting (April 9th).

SUSTAINABLE CT

Katie distributed Sustainable CT materials associated and aligned with the conservation commission's effort to update Cornwall's Natural Resource Inventory and management of woodlands and forests. The commission will use these guideline to assist in those efforts. Patrick noted that the commission should address an Open Space plan as mentioned in the materials

NWCONNECT PRESENTATION

Katie reported that a tentative date in May was selected to conduct the NWConnect seminar/presentation on internet expansion.

The presentation, co-sponsored but the Cornwall Association and EDC, will explain the internet expansion options under consideration, solicit needs from local personal and business interests, and assemble representation to NW ConneCT for the town as described in the POCD.

MOTION to adjourn at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Mulberry