



Cornwall Conservation Commission

Minutes of the Meeting of June 11, 2020 held 10:30 am, conducted as a Zoom Session

Commissioners in attendance: Patrick Mulberry, Katherine Freygang and Debby Bennett. Nancy Berry, Cream Hill Lake Task Force Representative, and Hector Prud'homme, member of the public was present.

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 am

The minutes of the special meeting of May14, 2020 were approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Katie Freygang reported that the commission has \$1450 in its account for fiscal year 2019/2020

RIDGELINE PROTECTION MAP

Debby reported that HVA will agree to create the Horizon-line map with cost of \$2500 to be paid in two installments. The Commission approved a **MOTION** to hire HVA to create the map and use the remaining 2019-2020 budget funds (\$1450) to pay for the first installment.

Debby will also pen a letter to the Cornwall Foundation to assist with funding.

Katie suggest that the commissioners lobby P&Z members to solicit support for ridgeline protection.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY:

- Patrick reported that Margie Purnell is still interested in assisting with the Natural Resource Inventory but due to a person commitment would not be able to take that up until later.
- It was agreed to put aside the efforts to update the NRI for the time being.

COMPLIING A LIST OF PLACES OF PRIORITY PROTECTION

A discussion revolved around what strategy may be best to identify the various places worthy of note. Margie submitted a memo summarizing various approaches to the task and Patrick presented a version of evaluation criteria developed by the Conservation Trust and modified for the commission's purposes.

Patrick asked for each commissioner to come up with initial suggestions for one of the six Cornwall neighborhoods. Whether those suggestions be a sample or instance of a site to be listed or a technic for evaluating sites for consideration. Nancy cautioned about re-inventing the wheel, since many of these sites have been previously noted and also cautioned about avoiding naming of "private" parcels or sites. Patrick agreed and reiterated that the goal of this exercise is to test methods and means for identifying sites and through this process, uncovering what issues may arise. Much of the discussion addressed the notion of community values and defining terms such as "rural character".

Katie suggested that a "Statement of Purpose" be submitted to P&Z in an effort to inform the planners of our approach and obtain feedback on it's suitability for P&Z purposes.

SUSTAINABLE CT/NWCONNECT

Katie reported that as an outcome of the community meeting a group of Cornwall residents will pursue the study of issues related to the expansion of high speed I nternet service throughout Cornwall.

CREAM HILL LAKE TASK FORCE

Nancy reported lake monitoring will re-commence June 24th with four pre-determined locations at Cream Hill Lake. Torrington Area health District tests for E.coli and bacteria while the task force testing looks at nitrogen, phosphorous and oxygen levels.

INVAISIVE SPECIES

Debby reported that efforts to eradicate knotweed are underway at the infestation sites around Cornwall.

MOTION to adjourn at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Mulberry