



Cornwall Conservation Commission

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

Commissioners in attendance: Patrick Mulberry 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 June 11, 2020 were approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

- The commission has \$1500 in its account for fiscal year 2020/2021

RIDGELINE PROTECTION MAP

Debby commissioned HVA to create the Horizon-line map with cost of \$2500 to be paid in two installments, the first installment of \$1450 is requisitioned. Patrick conferred with Stacy Deming on the initial parameters of the map to include points of reference along well know Cornwall routes. Once the draft map is in hand the commission will review to determine if adjustments to reference points need to be made.

Debby confirmed that Darrell Cherniskie (prime mover of Kent's Ridgeline protection effort) would be willing to make a zoom presentation to P&Z.

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

Patrick will lobby P&Z chair & members to solicit support for ridgeline protection.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY:

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 how to organize the various categories of “places”. Scenic, water courses, cultural and historic, critical habitat, farms and farmland were some of the possible categories mentioned. It was acknowledged that scientific expertise would be necessary to identify aspects of critical eco systems not immediately obvious to untrained civilians.

Patrick asked submitted a draft memo of initial “subjective” landmarks in the Cornwall Bridge neighborhood.

Patrick will develop a “Statement of Purpose” to 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.

CREAM HILL LAKE TASK FORCE

Nancy reported that a follow up round of lake monitoring happened in July. Results showed acceptable levels of phosphorous, but slightly elevated levels of nitrogen. Due to repairs of equipment oxygen levels were not measured.

INVAISIVE SPECIES

Debby reported ongoing efforts to eliminate Japanese knotweed are underway at the infestation site near the covered bridge. Replanting of native plants and grasses will act to inhibit future return of the knotweed.

OUTREACH

Debby reported ongoing coordination of several conservation themed events such as the Sept. 12th zoom presentation to be given by Peter DelTredici. Bill Bakaitis expert in fungi will give a presentation in the fall with a forest walk to follow.

MOTION to adjourn at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Mulberry