

Corinth Conservation Commission

August 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Present: Glynn Pellagrino, Linda Tobin, Jon Spanier, Bradley Wheeler, Ken Arkind, Marian Cawley, Lindle Lawton-Sutton, Kevin Eaton, Kevin Buchanan

Absent: None

Action items: Lindle will walk the Clement Loop trail and Marian will walk the Blue Loop at the FX Shea Town Forest to inspect for clearing needs and will report back at the September CCC meeting
Brad will post the initial mushroom foray announcement on the local resource network

I. Call to order: 7:05

II. Agenda Changes: None

III. Approval of July minutes: Glynn moved to approve, Lindle seconded, All in favor.

IV. Public Comment: None

V. Trail Maintenance: On July 28, 12 volunteers worked on trail clearing and maintenance at the FX Shea Town Forest. A new picnic table was also installed along the red trail. Approximately ½ of the trails were cleared. Another session is being planned for this fall. Marian will be checking the blue trail before the September CCC meeting, and we will schedule a date then to complete the job, which should include the blue trail and some of the orange trail.

The Green Up Day award recipients were not able to be at the trail clearing event, so the presentation of their plaque was not made. It will be done on another date, to be set by Ken.

Lindle will walk the Clement Loop trail and report back on their condition at the Sept. CCC meeting.

VI. Corinth Town Plan: Ken and Jon attended the July Planning Commission meeting and reported to the CCC on the Draft Town Plan and how the CCC may be able to assist with implementation of some of the items included in the plan. Some of those items are: transportation, floodway protection, recreation, natural resources, wildlife and forest resources, invasive species control. We discussed the need for protection of forest blocks and wildlife corridors, balanced with the need to support the local forestry industry. Reducing forest fragmentation through public education, conservation easements and cooperative agreements are some key elements of the plan that we discussed.

Ken provided several recommendations: 1. communicate with Planning Commission what the CCC can do to support the Town Plan; 2. provide public education re: forest block and habitat corridor conservation; 3. seek a grant to get help from the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Planning Commission for mapping of resources; 4. inventory the significant forest blocks and wildlife corridors in town.

The VT ANR Biofinder mapping program has useful information that may be helpful in our conservation efforts. Glynn suggested requesting that a VT DEC person come to town to present about forest blocks and wildlife corridors. There will be an open meeting on September 5 for further discussion of the Town Plan. The Planning Commission will be accepting public comment on the draft plan at the meeting.

VII. Mushroom Foray: The CCC is coordinating a mycologist-led mushroom foray for Sunday, September 15, 10:00 – 12:00. Cornell trained mycologist Ari Rockland-Miller will lead the foray. Brad will post a notice on the local resource network. The foray will be held at the Town Forest.

VIII. Bottle Duty: 8/10 - Kevin B.; 8/17 - Brad; 8/24 - Ginny Barlow; 8/31 - Lindle; 9/7 - Glynn

IX. Adjournment: 8:55 - Glynn moved, Jon seconded, All in favor.