Corinth Conservation Commission
September 9, 2024 meeting Draft minutes

Present: Glynn Pellagrino, Ken Arkind, Mary Kent, Katharine Lea.
Absent: Lindle Lawton-Sutton, John Melquist, Luke Campbell, Luise Graff.
Public: Ginny Barlow

Call to order at 7:02.
Land Acknowledgement.
Approval of August minutes, Glynn moved Ken second, minutes approved.

Agenda changes, Ginny Barlow wanted to discuss the town orchard, the town forest and the Clement Loop trail.

Town orchard:
Ginny Barlow is concerned about the state of the orchard and suggested we find someone to pay to manage the orchard since the CCC doesn't have the time to oversee more than basic maintenance. And so far finding volunteers to do it has been difficult. The CCC will look in to finding someone. She also wondered about removing the tree that died and replacement for the other tree that died last year. Glynn has posted on the LRN that apples are ready for picking and will post note at the town hall and leave a bag for drops. Also Chris Bruce has been having trouble getting paid for mowing, Glynn is following up with the town treasurer.

Ginny also inquired about the state of the Clement Loop Trail. Mary had walked the trail earlier in the summer and noted that most of the trail was in okay shape but some of the open areas had grown up toward the back of the loop but the trail markings were still pretty clear. We discussed putting the kiosk back up so people know the trail is open. The No Trespassing signs that were up from the logging may discourage people from walking there. It was noted that the kiosk that is down on the ground is in pretty rough shape and may need to be rebuilt. We will schedule a trail work day for the Clement Loop in the future.

FX Shea Town Forest:
The Saturday trail work day went well. Ken Arkind, Glynn Pellagrino, Lindle Lawton Sutton, Matt Nola and Rod White were present. Mary Kent had previously walked the trails to see what condition they were in and found a number trees across trails. The blue, orange and part of the red trail were cleared of blow downs and small brush. One snag that was too difficult to reach was left for another time. Overall the trails were in good shape.
Ginny had walked the the forest with Joanne Garton from the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation recently and said that there was grant money available currently for trail work and tree planting that the CCC might be interested in pursuing. Ginny also mentioned that the town forest is fairly uniform in tree age and that we might want to contact Dave Paganelli the Orange County Forester about doing some cutting to diversify the stand to improve the health of the forest. The CCC will check the forest management plan and schedule a walk with the County Forester to see what he thinks about future management ideas. It was also noted that some of the signs at the trail junctions have been damaged by bears and they could use repairing.

Forest Block Landowner Letter:
Ken had the landowner letter printed off at the town office. He also picked up mailing labels and stickers for sealing the letters. We still need to get stamps. Three sections in town still need to have the names and addresses of the parcels identified so they can be mailed. Sections 5,6,7. Glynn will work on area 7 and Ken will do 6. We'll try and complete that for the

next meeting so all the letters can go out together. After the letters go out we will plan a community educational meeting.

Transfer Station Mural:
Glynn reported that the mural had been taken down because it was weathering too badly to be left up. And that it will be moved to the Waits River Valley School. Jeff Spiegel is looking into replacing the mural with a community mural on the container, more information to come later. Lindle is still trying to get a better break down of the expenses for the project.

Other business: Glynn relayed the message that John Mellquist was resigning his position due to circumstances keeping him from attending meetings and having time to commit to the commission. He will notify the select board.

Bottles: Glynn 9/7, Katharine 9/14, Mary 9/21, Ken 9/28.

Adjournment: 8:02 PM