

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission
Meeting February 13, 2018
Approved Minutes

In attendance for the FCC: Craig Heindel, Chair
Dennis Armell, Treasurer
Jen Cirillo
Amy Dohner

Craig opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The January 19, 2018 meeting notes were moved to be accepted as amended. In Karen's absence, Craig will finalize these minutes and post them to the town website; and he will also take tonight's minutes and post them.

A. Town Forest:

1. Craig reported that the Schultz-Aldrich driveway has been roughed in to the house site. He has not heard from them regarding the right-of-way.
2. Craig updated us regarding photos from his game camera that he set up at the edge of the Town Forest looking at the cliff near the northeast corner of the Schultz-Aldrich parcel, for a couple of weeks in January: lots of deer and squirrels; obscure photos of coyotes in two night shots; no bobcats. When Craig retrieved the camera, he reported seeing lots of tracks of coyote, deer and turkeys; no bobcat tracks.
3. Craig attended the Selectboard meeting on Jan. 16, 2018, at which Jack Poirier from the local snow machine club requested permission to cross the Town Forest. Craig recommended that permission be granted for the winter of 2018, and the Selectboard voted so. Mr. Poirier asked if the permission could be granted for more than 1 year; Craig recommended against that, and the Selectboard agreed with him. The snow machine club should come to the Selectboard each year to ask for permission.
4. The Town Forest boundary reconnaissance and invasive-plant inspection will be rescheduled to a weekend day in April; to be finalized at our March meeting.

B. Town Meeting, Sat., March 3, 2018, 9:00 am:

1. Jen has not received any feedback regarding the Annual FCC Report that she sent to Gloria, so we assume all is OK.
2. Craig will give a brief report, if asked.
3. Treasurer's report: Dennis reported that, as of now, none of the \$550 budget has been spent. He will update Craig just before the Town Meeting, so Craig can explain if asked. We agreed that it is appropriate to be as prudent as possible regarding spending these funds, so they can begin to accumulate year after year to build a fund that might be useful in helping to support a larger conservation project in the future.

C. Future Workshops and Public Events:

1. 'Look and See', a film portrait of Wendell Berry: confirmed for Feb. 22, 7:00 pm. Details were discussed.
2. Possible public workshop about Turkeys: Jen has not been able to reach Chris Bernier (VT Fish & Wildlife] about a firm date for a presentation. Possible dates - any Thursday in May. If he is not available, he recommended getting a speaker from the American Turkey Federation. Jen will pursue Chris first.
3. Sue Morse presentation titled "Wild Yet Wonderfully Near Us: Bobcats of the Champlain Valley" is confirmed for October 4, 2018, 6:30 pm at the town center. Amy will bring her contract [Keeping Track, Inc.] to the Selectboard for signing when she receives it, and she will arrange for use of the town hall. KTI's cost will be \$350 plus dinner and mileage, and there will be other costs [snacks, etc.].

D. New business

1. Networking Summit: Addison County Conservation Commissions. Sat. April 7, 2018, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at Addison County Regional Planning Commission offices. Dennis will try to attend, and Amy might be available. Craig and Jen are not available on that date.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is March 13, 2018. Jen noted that she will be away on that date.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Heindel, Chair