

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission
Meeting January 8, 2019
Approved Copy

In attendance for the FCC: Craig Heindel, Chair
Karen Pettersen, Secretary
Dennis Armell, Treasurer
Amy Dohner

Craig opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

The December 11, 2018 meeting notes were moved to be accepted as presented.

A. Town Forest

1. Amy confirmed the date and time of the walk with Sue Morse- Feb. 21, Thursday at 1:00 pm. A revised contract will be signed by the Selectboard tonight. The revision involved an additional charge for the mileage.
2. The FCC will provide one person to meet Sue and Bobbi at the Town Hall and carpool them over to the gathering spot on Robinson Road, and provide another person at the gathering spot on Robinson Road to meet the general public who signed up for the walk.
3. Jen has the list of people who signed up for the walk last fall. When she sends out the notice of the revised date and time, the notice should, also, include a reminder that site conditions are variable and they should be prepared to bring snowshoes, and/or cramp-ons.
4. After polling FCC members who could attend the site walk we decided to postpone the walk this Spring due to the unavailability of FCC members who are familiar with the Town Forest.

B. Natural Resources flyer

1. Jen wasn't in attendance.

C. Future Workshops

1. Winter Ecology – Jen received an email from Alicia Daniel saying she could conduct a Winter Ecology Workshop. The FCC would prefer a weekend date for this workshop, and an outdoor place other than the Town Forest. Craig would prefer a weeknight in March.
2. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) – Craig will contact the State point person. We are thinking about a May date for this workshop.

D. Animal sightings

1. Amy sent out the list of sightings to us via email.

E. Zoning Rewrite

1. Karen reported that she attended the December 12th meeting.
2. Brandy Saxton, Planner, explained various option to proceed with the rewrite, her preference for limiting public outreach, an explanation of the number of public meetings and when they have to occur. She will send us the list of towns that have well organized Zoning Regulations.
3. We didn't get the grant this year, and she said to work on portions of the regulations this year, and apply for the grant again at the end of this year. The portions she recommends for us to work on are the Zoning Map, which varies from the approved Town Plan planning areas, and exemptions.

4. She, also, suggested we create unified regulations that encompasses both subdivision and zoning, which would reduce 6 to 8 pages.

F. Devos Ashley Road subdivision

1. Devos withdrew their application.

G. Additional members

1. A notice is on the Town's website that the FCC is seeking new members.

H. Vorsteveld

1. John Medenwald wasn't in attendance to update us.
2. Craig reported that an abutting landowner has retained a lawyer to address the runoff from the Vorsteveld farm.

I. New Business

1. Amy volunteered to write the 2018 FCC report for the annual Town Report.
2. Bat Monitoring – we want to organize the volunteers for this year's monitoring in April to avoid last year's confusion due to the expanded number of sites that volunteers covered.
3. Master Naturalist Program at UVM – The program is all booked up for 2019-2010. The program looks for a local coordinator, a strong trip leader, and financial commitment.
4. Dennis will be absent at the next meeting.
5. Craig will insert the Jerger attachments to the November meeting notes.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next scheduled meeting is February 12th, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Pettersen, Secretary

