

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission  
Meeting January 12, 2021  
Approved

Members present: Craig Heindel- Chair, Jen Cirillo, Ron DeBellis, Jadziah DeRosia, Amy Dohner, Krista Hoffsis, and Karen Pettersen

Guests: Cindy Schultz, and Deanna and Charlie Shapiro

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

The December 8, 2020 meeting notes were moved to be accepted as presented.

A. Land Use Regulation Update Committee

1. Karen attended the public hearing on the Draft Land Use Regulations held by the Ferrisburgh Planning Commission on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. After testimony from abutters on the west side of the Town Forest, Karen, representing the Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission, and Jean Richardson the Planning Commission voted to keep the Conservation Zone around Shellhouse Mountain as it is represented in the existing Zoning Regulations. The next hearing on the Draft Land Use Regulations will be held by the Selectboard on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
2. Charlie Shapiro, Town Forest abutting landowner, asked if the Conservation Commission is finished with pursuing any expansion of the Conservation Zone on the west side of Shellhouse Mountain. We all agreed that we are done with this issue for this bylaw amendment process.
3. Charlie, Deanna and Cindy, Town Forest abutting landowner, asked about the procedure for the next hearing. Craig generally explained the procedure for the hearing before the Selectboard.

B. Town Forest

1. Cindy said there are lots of dogs, some in large groups, that are wandering off the trail when their owners are walking on the trail thru their property, which accesses the Town Forest. Craig suggested adding a statement to the entrance sign regarding dogs. Jen said the Town's dog ordinance specifies that dogs have to be under voice command or on a leash. Also, Cindy would like dog owners to clean up after their dogs.
2. *Craig will contact the Selectboard regarding the local snow machine club permission to use the snow machine trail in the Town Forest.* Cindy mentioned that she has seen some snow machine tracks in the Town Forest.

C. FCC Brochure

1. Jen emailed the brochure to the members. The map has changed. Faith asked Jen how many copies of the brochure we want printed, so she can get quotes from printers. The number of copies depends on the cost and our budget. We have \$1,500.47 in our budget, and the expense for Futura's design assistance will cost \$500. *Amy will ask how much it will cost to print 250, 500 and 1000 copies using paper stock, and preferably recycled paper.*

2. Craig thought the hawk image could be smaller, which would allow us to include more information.

#### D. Emerald Ash Borer

1. Craig didn't receive any comments from Joe Nelson on a budget for the tree removal in the Town right-of-way.
2. *Karen will remind Joe of the ash trees that have been removed along Bay Road at Long Point before the budget for the tree removal is finalized.*

#### E. Bear Presentation

1. The Understanding and Living with Vermont Black Bears presentation will take place on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm using Zoom. Jen will host the presentation and will open the presentation a little early to help people having difficulties with joining the presentation. She will email people the morning of the presentation explaining she will be available for assistance with Zoom.
2. Jen will introduce Forrest and the presentation will be recorded.

#### F. Future workshops

1. Jadziah said we just have to set a date for Matt Harrison's presentation on Salmon fisheries. We can tell him sometime in March preferably a Wednesday or Thursday evening.
2. We have requested Judy Dow to do a presentation on Native Americans possibly their stewardship of land and water in April or May on a Wednesday or Thursday evening. Craig would also like to include information on the science of archeology concerning the early natives. It could be a separate presentation. Judy should be asked her preference.
3. Invasive Species could be another topic for a presentation. Krista suggested Matt Gordon as a speaker on aquatic invasives, Jadziah suggested Sue Haggar and Craig suggested contacting the State.

#### G. New Business

1. Annual Report – The report is due to the Town Clerk on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Craig explained how it was done in the past. There should be a few sentences about Dennis, who decided not to ask for reappointment. Jadziah volunteered to write the report and will email it to Craig for approval.
2. The members had a discussion about the number of members the Conservation Commission is allotted, which should be decided before we advertise for new members. Amy suggested contacting Matt Leonard, who was at our last meeting. *Amy and Craig will try to contact him.*
3. Treasurer – the Conservation Commission will need a volunteer to be our Treasurer. Amy volunteered. *Jen will send Amy the last budget information she had.*

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next scheduled meeting will be February 9, 2021, and we will meet using Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Petterson, Secretary