

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission
Meeting October 14, 2014
Approved Copy

In attendance for the FCC: Craig Heindel, Chairman; Dennis Armell, Treasurer;
Amy Dohner, John Medenwald, Karen Pettersen, Secretary
Jen Cirillo, guest

Craig opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The September meeting notes were moved to accept.

A. Town Plan

1. Craig reported that the Ferrisburgh Selectboard and the Planning Commission haven't set a meeting date to discuss the Town Plan.

B. Town Wildlife Mapping

1. Karen will post a request on the Front Porch Forum asking people to provide us the locations of any wildlife sightings within the Town using 911 addresses or other prominent landmarks, such as intersections of roads.
2. Karen will contact Jens Hawkins-Hilke, Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife Biologist, requesting him to give a presentation to our Town in January on the status of the wildlife within Ferrisburgh. He made a presentation in New Haven on the same subject that Karen attended. His job is to assist Town Conservation Commissions regarding wildlife issues. We will ask the schools to attend the presentation, and meeting time will be adjusted to accommodate the students' schedule.
3. Karen will post a request on the Front Porch Forum asking people if there is an interest in another animal tracking presentation.

C. Barry MacDonald ZBA application.

1. Karen had emailed the Commission members a copy of the Town parcel map showing the location of the parcel. John read the ZBA Oct. 1 meeting notes. The notes weren't clear if the application was closed. Liam Murphy, attorney for abutters, David and Mekka Frescett, objected on behalf of his clients to the additional height of the proposed structure. None of the FCC members are sure if the Shoreland Protection Law applies to this development.

D. Shoreland Protection Law

1. Craig suggested that one of the FCC members should attend the ZBA and the PC meetings to monitor the applications for compliance with, and to educate the other boards regarding this new law.
2. Craig also suggested that the FCC could hold a workshop on this new law.
3. Craig will print out the State flyer on the law and ask Pam, the assistant Town Clerk, to post it at the Town Clerk's office.

E. Other meetings and business.

1. Karen presented 3 photographs to the Commission for the FCC website. Dennis suggested that the photograph for website should include some wildlife, which are not a subject in any of the 3 photographs. Amy volunteered to post a request on FPF for photographs of wildlife within the Town to be used on our website.

2. Two species of bats in Vermont have been added to the State endangered species list. The species are little brown bat, and northern long-eared bat. The State list already includes the small footed and Indiana bats. The Indiana bat is also on the Federal endangered species list. Dennis will send the announcement to Craig, who will email John Bull and Cliff Mix, Town Tree Warden, to alert them to this news.
3. The Monkton Conservation Commission has requested a joint meeting with the FCC to discuss common interests. Amy will contact them about possible Nov. or Jan. meeting dates. John will be away the entire month of Jan.
4. We will conduct our semiannual Town Forest site visit to review the southern boundary line and invasive species. The tentative date is Sun. Dec. 14 at 9:30.
5. Jen Cirillo attended our meeting with an interest in becoming a member of the FCC.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next scheduled meeting is November 11, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Pettersen, Secretary