

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission  
Meeting November 10, 2020  
Approved

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

Members absent: Dennis Armell, Jadziah Hannon Moonstone

Craig opened the Zoom meeting at 7:03 p.m.

The October 13, 2020 meeting notes were moved to be accepted as presented.

A. Land Use Regulation Update Committee

1. Karen reported that she couldn't download the comments regarding the Natural Resources Sections of the draft LURUC document from the members using Google docs. *Jen will email Karen the comments.*
2. The Planning Commission will meet on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Natural Resource Sections and the Conservation Zone changes recommended by the Conservation Commission. *Karen will attend that meeting.*
3. Craig reported that Jens Hilke thinks the area west of the Town Forest has a high conservation value as shown on the VT BioFinder map. Karen pointed out that the area of high conservation value extends further west of the Aldrich/Schultz property along the south side of Robinson Road. Craig said he would support including that portion in the Conservation Zone. Craig said another area of high conservation value, as shown on the VT BioFinder, is west of the Robinson Road extension, and is probably a stream corridor, which are important.

B. FCC Brochure

1. Jen hadn't heard from Pam, Deb nor Dennis regarding the Conservation Commission's account balance.
2. Phyllis, Futura Design, estimated the cost for limited redesign of the brochure would be \$300 to \$400. Phyllis suggested adding color to the font or background.
3. Amy modified some of the links. *Jen to tell Phyllis we need live links for our web page.*
4. We discussed and approved the proposed redesign budget, which doesn't include printing.

C. Jerger Salvage Yard

1. Craig reported that he hadn't received any adverse comments regarding Jerger's annual renewal of his permit. The Conservation Commission had no comments to forward to the State.

D. Emerald Ash Borer

1. Emerald Ash Borer has been found in Richmond.
2. John Bull set up a zoom meeting with Jess James, Joe Nelson, Cliff Mix and Craig for Nov. 11.

3. Jesse, Selectboard Chair, emailed Craig concerning whether the Town should consider creating a Shade Tree Plan. There is a provision for creating a Shade Tree Plan in the new Tree Warden legislation. Apparently all trees in Town Road r-o-ws can be cut down by the adjacent landowner without Town input unless a town has a Shade Tree Plan.

#### E. Recycling

1. No new information.

#### F. Future workshop

1. Jen hasn't heard back from Forrest Hammond, VDF&W, on a Bear Presentation.
2. Jen talked with Judy Dow, Abenaki educator, regarding a presentation on Indigenous History of the Champlain Valley. Judy Dow would be interested. November is Native Heritage Month.
3. *Amy will email Jadziah asking about contacting Matt Harrison for a presentation about salmon fisheries in Lake Champlain.*

#### G. Webpage

1. Krista made recommendations updating the Conservation Commission's webpage.
2. *Craig will send Krista the deed research, by Silas Towler, on the Town Forest to be included on the webpage.*
3. Krista will add upcoming workshops.
4. Craig asked Krista to:
  - Delete the old workshops- ask Betsy to create a new subfolder for the old workshops
  - Leave the wording regarding the number of members on the Commission
  - Bat Monitoring is on hold for now
  - Add Brochure – maybe add links in Brochure
  - Add link to AVCC and the Mid Valley RCP
  - Change title on Resources... to just Resources

#### H. New Business

1. Town Forest
  - On Saturday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, Jen, Craig and Chris Tan worked on the trail thru the Schultz/Aldrich property to the Town Forest. They cut brush and added more red flagging. Craig said if anyone wants to do more work on the trail bring loppers and/or a bow saw. The trail could be straightened and or widened in some places, which would have to be coordinated with Cindy and/or Tom.
  - Chris Tan and his wife returned to do more trail work and saw Tom. They talked about the steep section and the possibility of adding steps.
2. Events
  - Amy said there is an event on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> – Owls in Addison County sponsored by the North Branch Nature Center. The event is limited to 12 people.
  - Ethan Tapper, forester, leads field trips.
  - Craig said the FCC should add these to our website, and asked members to please forward VT F&W events they become aware of to Craig.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm. The next scheduled meeting will be December 8, 2020, and we will meet using Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Pettersen, Secretary