

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission  
Meeting November 10, 2015  
Approved Copy

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

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

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

A. Wildlife Presentation, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 pm

1. The presentation was well received. Twenty six people attended.

B. Anbaric, partnering with National Grid

1. Craig will attend the public meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

C. Solar Proposals

1. There is a new proposed solar array project at the corner of Button Bay and Basin Harbor Roads by Vorstevelt.
2. Karen mentioned a recent article in the Addison Independent regarding the potential conflict between Bobolinks and solar array projects, because they can compete for the same grasslands. Both bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows are grassland nesters. Jen will follow up with Noah Pullet at the UVM Bobolink Project.

D. AVCC

1. Karen attended the annual meeting of the Association of Vermont Conservation Commission. This years' focus was Celebrating 100 Years of Vermont Town Forests. Karen chose 3 sessions: Protecting Community Owned Land, Keep Forests, Forested: Addressing Forest Fragmentation in Communities, and Stewardship: Managing Multiple Uses and Expectations.
2. Karen will look up the VT Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation's 2015 Fragmentation Report.

E. Town Forest

1. We will review the forest boundary on February 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30 along the east line starting at the trail from the Miles farm and head south.
2. We weren't sure of the local snowmobile club requested permission from the Selectboard to cross the Town Forest last year.

F. Addison County River Watch Collaborative

1. We discussed a potential date for a presentation sponsored by the ARWC and the FCC, maybe February 24<sup>th</sup> or March 9<sup>th</sup>.
2. The presentation will depend on funding being applied for by the ACRWC.
3. Drainage tile could be the subject of a future workshop, and the Champlain Valley Farmer Coalition could be a co-sponsor.

4. Contact LCA to increase their sampling to include sites requested by farmers who want to manage their nutrient discharge.

G. Monkton Intertown Conservation Meeting

1. John composed a response to the Monkton questionnaire, which Craig will review. Craig will email the final version to the FCC members for input before sending it to Monkton.
2. The meeting is scheduled for Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 5 pm at Holly Hall in Bristol.

H. Vision Statement

1. Jen wants to include Jericho's and Warren's statements to the others she emailed to FCC members.
2. Karen passed out the AVCC statement on what conservation commissions can do.
3. Craig will forward a copy of the enabling legislation to the commission members.

I. Website

1. Karen to contact Betsy Etchells to:
  - a. Change the meeting time to 7:00pm
  - b. Add another item on the left sidebar labeled 'Upcoming Workshops'
  - c. Remove 'interested in joining the FCC'
  - d. Add Finn Yarbrough's name as a member of the committee
  - e. Remove one of the 'meeting minutes' notations

J. New business

1. Stearns
  - a) Stearns contacted Craig regarding the discharge of drainage from a neighboring field onto his land at a wetland. The drainage tile is located within the town r-o-w and John Bull gave permission. Craig will follow up with the State wetland office.
  - b) Craig said that agricultural drainage tiles will be a big issue because they have a significant impact due to the direct discharge of phosphorus into the waters of the State.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm. The next scheduled meeting is December 8, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Pettersen, Secretary

