

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission  
Meeting March 9, 2021  
Approved Minutes

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

Members not present: None

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

The February 9, 2020 meeting notes were moved to be accepted as amended.

A. Land Use Regulation Update Committee

1. Karen reported that the Ferrisburgh voters approved the Land Use Regulations.

B. Town Forest

1. Craig said that there was nothing to report.

C. FCC Brochure

1. Jen said that the brochure has been printed and Futura will deliver them to the Town Offices. However, the link to the Town's website in the brochure is incorrect. *Amy said she will correct it by hand after she contacts Phyllis regarding the font size.*
2. *Amy and Jen will try to find 2 holders for the brochure.*
3. Jen is waiting for the invoice from Futura. Steve said it will be included with the delivered brochures.

D. Emerald Ash Borer

1. The Town voters approved the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Tree Fund to be used for the removal of Ash and other danger trees, as well as planting and general tree care.
2. Karen reported that Long Point has contracted with Teachers Tree Service to cut down ash trees on their property that would harm people and/or property prior to the emerald ash borer attacked the ash trees.

E. Salmon Fisheries Presentation

1. Jadziah contacted Matt Harrison, Maritime Museum, regarding presenting a brief natural history of the Atlantic Salmon in Lake Champlain. Matt said he could do the presentation on April 1 at 7:00 pm.
2. Craig asked Jadziah to create a one or two sentence description to be included in the advertisements.
3. *Amy will contact the Addition Independent, 7 Days, and ask the Town to add the presentation to Town's website. Jen will send out the flyer to the FCC mailing list. Craig will post the notice on Front Porch Forum and State F&W Department, and bring a poster to Rack and Reel in New Haven.*

F. Future workshops

1. Native American presentation by Judy Dow- Jen said Judy would send an outline of her presentation and her fee. The presentation might be in May or June.
2. Invasive Species presentation – Jadziah heard that Meg Modley, an aquatic invasive specialist with the Lake Champlain Basin Program, would be interested in doing a presentation.

G. Shamis, 588 Arnold Bay Road, Zoning Application

1. Craig sent recommendations to the ZBA and the applicant regarding the Shamis application in advance of the ZBA hearing on March 3, 2021 hearing similar to others we have sent to the

Zoning Board of Adjustment. We did not have a meeting scheduled in time before this hearing to review the application documents, so Craig relied on our previous authorization for him to send recommendations and attend the hearing.

2. Craig said Shamis wants to have a light footprint on the environment with their house, driveway, etc., and supported the general concept of wildlife conservation. The ZBA hearing on 3/03 was continued to future meetings, and a site visit with the Conservation Commission is tentatively scheduled for Sunday 3/14 at 9 am, although that might be changed or canceled depending on possible agreements being reached with the Shamises about conditions in the zoning permit. Jen said she might be able to attend the site visit too.  
[Ron had to leave the meeting at this point]

#### G. New Business

1. Craig asked that we re-state the Commission's previous informal authorization for a member to present recommendations to town boards, if there is no time to review applications or other requested items at our regularly scheduled monthly meetings before the date of a town board's hearing or meeting.

After being offered, seconded and discussed, the following resolution was passed unanimously:

The Chair of the Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission, or another designated Commission member if the Chair is not available, to provide conservation-related comments on behalf of the Conservation Commission regarding applications or topics that are being addressed by the Zoning Administrator, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Planning Commission, Selectboard, or other municipal bodies for hearings that are scheduled before the next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission.

2. *Bat Monitoring – Amy will contact Alyssa Bennett to find out if Alyssa will do another training session or just use the same people who have monitored previously for this summer's monitoring. Amy will also ask Alyssa about the release forms and the equipment. We decided that we did not want the count this year to include field training of new volunteers due to pandemic risks, and that the volunteer counters this year should be stationed with only one person per county location, in order to provide adequate physical distancing.*
3. *Amy, FCC Treasurer, will collect financial information regarding the FCC budget, including estimated expenses for the brochure, Judy Dow, Town Forest signs, and brochure stands. The fiscal year ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>.*
4. Karen will not be attending the next meeting.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm. The next scheduled meeting will be April 13, 2021, and we will meet using Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Pettersen, Secretary