

Charlotte Conservation Commission
Draft Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2019
Charlotte Town Offices
7:00pm

Members in attendance:

**Amos Baehr, Krista Hoffsis, Linda Radimer, Roel Boumans, Kevin Burget,
Mary Van Vleck, Derk Bergquist and Susan Blood.**

7:05 - Approving January Minutes

Motion made to accept Jan minutes as corrected. Seconded and approved.

7:10 - Downloading pictures from wildlife cams.

We brought the CCC computer from the library and Derk downloaded the pictures that we got from placing them on Clark Hinsdale's land close to where the town trail through East Charlotte might run. The cameras were out there for quite awhile but the batteries were not dead! So we have almost 3 months of pictures. The animals captured included: deer, coyotes and turkeys. And a very jumpy squirrel! Kevin loaned us a card reader but in the future it would be good for the CCC to have its own and keep it with the computer so downloading pictures is easy!

7:15 - Budget Review

Linda got the form to request funds from the town.

Posts for the wildlife crossing signs: Linda found out that each post with bolts will cost \$45. From the meeting at Roel's we now have 4 points to put up signs which would be 8 signs total. We can order them now and then it's possible to set them up with Junior's help. Junior is the one we need to talk to about actually placing them. Not sure if we'll need to go through the Selectboard as well to confirm placement. It's possible we could add little signs that say something like "next mile" or "next 2 miles." But that could happen later on too.

What is Lewis Creek using their money for? Water quality monitoring. According to Amos frogbit is under control so they are shifting to flowering rush and yellow iris.

Web Integration and Maintenance request for funds: This was for software for the computer which we don't need because Derk downloaded open source free applications on the CCC computer.

Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions: Let's join this again! Mary will send them \$50. And let's ask for this amount for 2019/2020 so we can stay members of AVCC.

Do we need money for Education and Outreach? Not right now. Let's use our Facebook page and iNaturalist.

Do we want to ask for more money for mapping - anything else? 2 cameras. More memory cards. And a way to lock the camera boxes. Amos will order more cameras and memory cards.

8:30 Miscellaneous

Mapping Resources- Amos learned more about this at the meeting of Conservation Commissions. Let's remember this!

Also we have Roel's map which would be good to print. Perhaps the Regional Planning Commission can print our map?

We need to update the Significant Habitat Map. Students at UVM helped us with the old one. Amos will look into getting a UVM intern. Once we have a new map we can use the wildlife cameras to ground truth what we think the map is telling us. We could even look at Roel's map and put out cameras now to check.

Looking back to Long Range Planning Document - perhaps we should get back to that. Let's look at those again in the next meeting. Also look at Derk's model again, too.

Linda's term is up in April 2019. She is wondering if best practice would be for us to divide up projects and work on them separately. So put real effort into separate working groups.

8:45 - Conservation Currents

Someone could write an article about Roel's map which would be a great way to let the community know about the signs and the current important corridors. Perhaps for April or May? This could even be a series with the first article about the mapping and a follow up with information about Ecosystem services. Roel will make a change map to we can see how things have changed in 10 years. Mary will help writing the article after Roel makes the map.

Kevin is working on his article. He may ask for some contacts from Linda.

Kevin could also make videos for us like he did for the town trail. Members were pretty excited about this possibility!

9:00 Adjourn

Motion made to adjourn. Seconded and approved.

Meeting minutes by Susan Blood