

Charlotte Conservation Commission
Draft Meeting Minutes
May 28th, 2019
Charlotte Town Offices
7:00 PM

Members in attendance: Amos Baehr, Roel Boumans, Derk Bergquist, Linda Radimer, Kevin Burget, Krista Hoffsis and Susan Blood.

7:00 - Adjustments to agenda and public comment

Will review next meeting. The minutes need to be updated with feedback from Mary.

7:10 Continuation of suggested Protocol for Trail Camera uploading and storage of data.

Derk did a good amount of work on how we make the pictures we take with the wildlife cameras meaningful in terms of producing valuable data. And this led him to even more questions which he hadn't thought of when he started. Things like how high it's placed and for how long and what time of year etc.

Use fish and wildlife website to identify creatures - create our own field guide.

Derk made a fairly complete guide to Data collection. Datasheet for deploying and retrieving wildlife cameras along with a datasheet for raw data from photos.

I (Susan) will ask Derk to send out all that he generated about this and if anyone has any suggestions bring them to the next meeting.

Start with random points on the landscape so we know what high/med/low animal density looks like. Also we can set up a camera and put out distance markers so we can learn how sensitive the camera is.

How can we involve the community? We need a sample of the town so we can average that and then have a baseline. We could ask people who live here to let us put cameras out. It doesn't matter what your property has on it - just to get an idea. And animals

move seasonally - so we could break it into summer/winter. And weather could be part of what makes animal moves! So we'll do a test with 2 weeks.

There are 3 cameras out right now which Linda and Krista will get back. Then we will figure out how to get the photos into SmugMug which Kevin has set up for us.

One idea is that Roel could generate 100 random points in Charlotte. And then we could see if it is possible to get animal data from some of those points.

7:45 Crossing signs/posts status and setup - Roel will email Linda the wildlife crossing sign places. We'll find out where Junior Lewis keeps his stuff so we can bring the posts there.

8:00 Hinsdale development discussion/review of pictures if available - Linda will call Darryl to see if there is any more info about this.

8:20 Attendance Schedule at Planning Commission Meetings - Thursday June 20th East Village Commercial Area on agenda! Krista will go - anyone else is welcome!

8:30 Check in for Conservation Currents Articles

Remember, due at the beginning of month - by the 5th.

Kevin went to Willsboro, NY to meet with Peter Payne today. He could probably write that article soon.

Krista will do June and ask for people to volunteer to let us set up game cams on their properties.

Kevin will try for July and Susan will edit Roel's article.

8:40 Update on Town Trail Progress - Mary isn't here to give us an update.

Next meeting June 25th. Linda will be away, Kevin too. Perhaps with summer we will skip the June meeting and hope more people are around in July.

8:45 Motion made to adjourn! Seconded and approved.

Minutes submitted by Susan Blood.