

CRAFTSBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

August 22, 2023

Attending: Steve Moffatt, Farley Brown, Elinor Osborn, Diane Morgan

Absent: Doug Wolcik, Nancy Millholland, Liz Kegl, Colin Netzley, Susie Houston

Lacking a forum, we were not able to conduct a business meeting. The following are not formal minutes but rather a list of reports presented.

1. Steve attended the last Selectboard meeting and requested that it be officially stated in the minutes that the Conservation Commission in no way promotes zoning or deals in any way with zoning in our meetings. The Commission is a subcommittee under the jurisdiction of the Selectboard and the Selectboard should let us know when there are projects they want us to be working on.

Steve suggested that we continue to consider potential new members to fill our current vacant position.

2. Diane reported that she met with Michelle Warren to update the Commission's webpage adding the new members names, deleting the information and form for borrowing the weed wrench from the town hall changing it to the Craftsbury Public Library, and adding a paragraph about the Knotweed Demonstration Project with a link to the revised brochure.
3. Elinor reported that Saturday's nature inventory event to learn to use the SEEK and iNaturalist apps had five new participants attending.

At our September meeting, Elinor and Farley will review the Town of Craftsbury Nature Inventory Project. Members should bring cell phones or tablets to download so that we all can be entering data if we aren't already.

Elinor announced that the Invasives working group needs another member who is willing to cut/work at the Demonstration site on a weekly basis spring, summer, and fall.

4. Farley announced that on August 30 is Sterling's "Service Day" and she will arrange for a group of students to cut at the knotweed site. She will also see if she can continue to have students help throughout the semester as part of Sterling's Forest Ecology Management Team.

Town Plan: This update will be written in the form of a story consisting of four chapters which will make the plan more interesting reading. Our Natural History section will be titled "Maintaining Ecological Connections". The Nature Inventory Working Group (Farley and Colin) will work on the writing of this section and will need another member. Steve suggested that perhaps Nancy would join. Writing needs to begin right away. Farley is distributing a questionnaire via email.

5. Announcements:

The Planning Commission is sponsoring a walk in the Colburn Hill Town Woodlot to talk about connectivity, Saturday October 14.

October 17 from 12 – 1 Elizabeth Spinney presentation online on Invasive Species

Conservation Commission next meeting: September 18