Minutes for the Craftsbury Conservation Commission Meeting (two pages)

Meeting Held Monday May 20, 2024 7pm

Present: Elinor Osborn, Farley Brown, Nancy Milholland, Diane Morgan, Colin Netzley, Eloise Girard, Liz Keglor and Doug Wolcik

Absent: Ken Menard

The **April minutes approved** by majority vote.

Natural Resource of Town Plan—this working group needs to meet again (Elinor, Colin and Farley make up this working group). Allison needs to make adjustments.

Election of officers proposed but first explored the duties for each officer.

What does a chair do: conducts meetings, coordinates the working groups, leads us in defining goals, chair should attend or delegate to bring information back from state meetings/ education, agenda and other meeting protocols, AVCC link (assoc. of Vt. Conservations and commissions), chair goes to select board meetings (or can a send a surrogate), aware of Robert's Rules of Order, check conservation commission mail box at town hall (Farley checks this too).

Farley acts as a liaison with the Planning Commission

Farley Brown motioned/nominated that Colin Netzley be designated as Chair; Diane Morgan seconded Colin for Chair. **Colin Netzley was voted in as Chair.**

Farley Brown motioned to nominate/elect Diane Morgan as Vice Chair, Elinor seconded this, and **Diane Morgan was voted in as Vice Chair.**

Secretary—taking turns until someone expresses interest after Nancy Milholland declined nomination.

Restructuring of the Working Groups:

Conservation Fund (Elinor and Diane explained)-for the public to contribute for purpose of community conservation needs (like land or viewshed protection), application to use those funds and select board decides. Farley said that sometimes funds are used to offset legal

fees for conservation easements. $37,200 current balance. All CCC members should reread the Fund Guidance Document to be aware of the purpose and criteria of the use of the fund. It is found on the commission page of the town website on a link in a red box.

Natural Resource inventory—revised town plan, which includes rivers/streams and water quality (Farley Brown and Colin Netzley)

Invasives (with focus currently on Japanese Knotweed (JKW) with Watershed Grant

(Elinor Osborn**,** Diane Morgan, Farley Brown, Eloise Girard, Doug Wolcik)

Outreach/Education—engaging public, presentations, getting out the word on diff. projects, fb, Instagram, website if determined need (social media),Front porch forum Postings etc.(Diane Morgan, Liz Keglor, Nancy Milholland)

Nancy expressed a Topic of interest: Climate Change impacts on our community and no working group was established for this.

Hazard Mitigation Report Update: (Colin Netzley Shared) Penelope is typing it up to present to the select board. Penelope suggests Lake Eligo is part of hazard mitigation—Eligo Lake Association is who we will contact.

Liz Keglor motioned, and Elinor Osborn seconded it, and all voted that FB **and Instagram be established for the Conversation Commission** as a way to highlight our work and bring in volunteers for projects and events.

Elinor gave us an update on the **Grant for Japanese knotweed:** Elinor continues to manage logistics and management of funds. Sterling students-worked on erosion control (help day). Town did rocks in gullies. Linda Ramsdell is a volunteer. Nancy Milholland suggested Holly too as a potential volunteer. Ben Matthews from DEC—told us how to use erosion fabric (flat part only). All grant work needs to be completed in two years. Intervale nursery, willing to come free of charge to give us plants for bank stabilization Farley and Eloise will help with willow fascines and check dams. Goal—get workdays set up, Thurs May 30th and Mon June 3rd 5-6pm Diane has asked historical society—to get history of the mills.

Secretary next meeting—Liz Keglor volunteered.

Meeting adjourned by 8:16pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Milholland (this is an updated version)