

Jaffrey Conservation Commission Minutes Draft

Meeting held at Town Offices July 25, 2018

Present: Carolyn D Garretson, Chair, Kathy Batchelder, Bill Graf, Charles Koch, Elizabeth Webster, Recorder, Bonnie Mitchell, Select Board Member

Regrets: Pam Armstrong, Francis McBride, Serra Gauthier

I. The meeting convened 7:00 PM. Welcome to Bonnie.

II. The minutes of the June 20 meeting were approved.

III. Financial Review – \$21,937.50 to be received from Land Use Change Tax. Approved payment requested by CDG for laminating.

IV. Ongoing Items

A. CPCA – The culvert has not been installed. Gates have been manufactured, but will not be installed until the culvert work is done. The Nutting Road parking area will be excavated when the gates are installed. KB will speak to her neighbor, Ms. Shea, to give her a heads-up. The marking of the trail has been completed by BG. CDG will try to ascertain reason for the culvert delay, and will speak to PA about identifying Eagle Scouts who might wish to work on trail construction.

B. Open Space – Because of the sink holes, Villi Poni will not be participating in Riverfest. It has been decided that the Jaffrey ConComm will not erect a booth, either, choosing to prepare the Wildlife Sighting Project for fall. The Habitat Map will place numbered sticky dots to mark wildlife sightings, recording the number and the animal in an accompanying notebook. KB will present the project to the schools once they have started again. Motion: To introduce the Wildlife Sightings Project at Scarecrows on the Commons, rather than at Riverfest. Passed. CDG will contact Stephanie Neimela to arrange if possible.

C. Education – CDG has been in contact with Ben Kilham, whose expertise lies in rearing bear cubs for successful for life in the wild. Dr. Kilham has been working with the Chinese government to create a similar program for pandas. Dr. Kilham is available as a speaker (\$300) in September, if a suitable venue and the necessary equipment can be arranged. The Meetinghouse is proposed as a suitable space. CDG will ask about a town-owned projector, or consider purchasing one.

D. Planning Board – The River Commission (CNBRLC) has expressed concern regarding the lack of sufficient storm water management for the Belletete's property as it exists. Currently, one half of the property drains into a ditch marked "direction unknown."

V. New Business

A. Bear Baiting – Although hunting is permitted on town-owned property, bear baiting is not permitted within 300 feet of any dwelling, trail, road, or pathway. Requests must be made for bait stations.

B. Wildlife Action Activities – In addition to the Wildlife Sighting Project, CDG would like to identify other activities to involve the community. ConComm members are urged to look at the current Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) online to consider ways in which it might be updated and improved.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next meeting will be held on August 22, 2018, 7PM at the Town Offices.