

Jaffrey Conservation Commission  
Virtual Meeting Minutes  
August 18, 2021

Present: Carolyn Garretson (chair), Aaron Abitz, Pam Armstrong, Serra Gauthier, Charlie Koch, Fran McBride, Elizabeth Webster, Kevin Chamberlain (Select Board Rep.)

Absent: Kathy Batchelder, Jim Bearce, Bill Graf, Michael George

Guests: David Paragallo, Tom Ahlborn-Tsu

Meeting convened at 7PM. The meeting took place at the Jaffrey Town Offices.  
The meeting was called to order by Carolyn Garretson, Chair.

Our guests introduced themselves. Both expressed interest in the ConComm at Riverfest.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved.

Financial Review: CDG submitted for her Zoom expenses.

Ongoing

A. CPCA. The Gramms have donated \$100 for the installation of benches at view points. CK plan to reposition the displaced bog bridges in September. CK doesn't believe they were much damaged by the flood. Trail markers need to be installed. FMB cleared buckthorn that was obscuring the sign at the Nutting Road entrance.

B. Children's Woods/ Carey Park. The trails were cleared by JB & BG for the Riverfest race, though one problematic tree remains.

C. Town Forest Easements. CK proposes that a subcommittee be formed to prepare the necessary documents for presentation at Town Meeting. Carey Park, Cheshire Pond, and Lacey Road, as properties integral to the preservation of wetlands, have been approved for transfer by the Select Board. However, the Monandnock Conservancy requires that the articles be passed at Town Meeting. Kelly Dowd will be asked if all three properties can be presented as a single article. CK, CDG, and FMB forming the sub-committee.

D. Riverfest. Dr. Goodby was well received. There was a steady stream of people through the booth.

E. Nutting Road Bridge, etc.. FEMA estimates that Jaffrey sustained between \$1.5-2 million in damage from the July storm, enough to potentially qualify the county for disaster relief. LeTourneau Rd. has a temporary culvert until next spring. DES approvals for the box culvert are going forward. The Nutting Rd. bridge suffered additional damage in the storm.

F. Education Programs. CDG proposes a presentation by Dr. Goodby in late September, to coincide with the publication of his book. If the Meetinghouse is available, it would be the preferred venue.

G. Re-imagining Jaffrey. EMW will contact Jo Anne Carr about participating on behalf of the ConComm.

H. ZBA. EMW reported on the Woodbound Rd. alteration of terrain. ZBA halted further encroachment on the wetlands.

I. Planning Bd. CK reported the reference to the ConComm in the Minutes regarding the extension of the Rail Trail towards Peterborough. Beyond Old Sharon Rd. the trail runs through private property.

J. Howard Park. The dead tree will be replaced by the donor. Thank you, Kevin.

#### New Business

A. Town Land Maintenance. AA reports that 2,4-D is being used on Town lands. Formerly, the Town agreed to stop using pesticides/ herbicides in favor of a fertilization-only program. The new maintenance program appears to be more expensive, as well. KC suggests that AA research the details of the new contract, in order to make a just comparison, and that the concern be brought to Jon Frederick and Todd Croteau. A letter to this effect will be drafted once more data is available.

Motion: To register our disapproval of the use of synthetic pesticides and herbicides on Town Lands. To respectfully request consultation with the Conservation Commission on matters that effect water quality. Passed: 7 yea, 1 abstention.

B. CNBRLAC seeks a letter of support for the pursuit of a study grant. Motion: To write a letter on behalf of the Jaffrey Conservation Commission, supporting the grant application of the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Corridor, the CNBRLAC, for the Land and Climate Catalyst Planning Program. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. Next scheduled meeting should be September 15 at 7PM, at the Town Offices..