Jaffrey Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes January 18, 2023

Present: Carolyn Garretson (Chair), Tom Ahlborn-Tsu, Pam Armstrong, Jim Bearce, Bill Graf, Charlie Koch, Fran McBride, David Peragallo, Elizabeth Webster, Kevin Chamberlain (Select Board Rep.)

Absent: Aaron Abitz, Kathy Batchelder, Michael George

Regrets: Serra Gauthier

- 1. Meeting convened at 7:00 PM. The meeting took place at the Jaffrey Town Offices.
- The meeting was called to order by Carolyn Garretson, Chair.
- 2. Minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting were approved.
- 3. Financial Review. The ConComm received \$8,530 from LUCT in 2022.
- 4. Ongoing
- A. Natural Resources Inventory. Members voted to rank NRI components as provided by Jeff Littleton. The most important sub-topics were also identified.
 - I. Land Use: 1) Conservation and public lands 2) Land use and land cover 3) Zoning and tax parcels
 - II. Water Resources: 1) Watersheds 2) Aquifers 3) Wetlands
 - III. Habitats and Wildlife: 1) Significant biodiversity areas 2) Forest and core forest habitat
 - IV. Cultural resources: Equal votes for Scenic views and Recreation
 - V. Physical setting: Soil survey
 - VI. Climate: Special flood hazard areas (under Water Resources) referenced here
- B. Jaffrey 250th. A Calendar of Events has been published without the ConComm sponsored events in April. A flyer highlighting those events will have to be posted on the website as soon as they are finalized. In the planning: four hikes, Salamander Crossing, Trail Games, a presentation by Suzy Spikol. KC has gotten approval for a tree to be donated by Eversource, with Red Oak suggested by CK as reliably long-lived. KC will ask Arborist Bob Allen about speaking in conjunction with the planting on April 17.
- C. Earth Day. EW will send information regarding a movie/ panel discussion about plastics, with the Civic Center proposed as venue.

DP asks that Earth Day be dedicated to celebrating the Earth.

- D. CPCA. The major construction is completed, making CPCA a functional recreation area. Some material remains available for smaller projects. Clean up of fallen branches should be an annual, scheduled, event.
- E. Children's Woods. ARM Grant awarded elsewhere. Plans for transfer of the easement set aside for lack of funding.
- F. Mail. DES sent a letter to 482 Gilmore Pond Rd. for the construction of a retaining wall within the shoreland buffer, without permission.
- 5. New Business
- A. The Community Power Committee seeks participation in the survey on the Town website, and in the Public Hearings/Information Sessions at the Firehouse on Feb. 1st (10 AM) and 13th (6 PM).
- B. Carolyn Garretson announced her relinquishment of the Chair ASAP. She will remain a member of the Commission. Charles Koch tendered his resignation from the Commission.

Our thanks for over a decade of leadership, hard work, and persistence. Your roles will be difficult to fill.

6. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. Next scheduled meeting is February 15, 2023 at 7PM, at the Town Offices.