

Jaffrey Conservation Commission Minutes Draft

Meeting held at Town Offices September 26, 2018

Present: Carolyn D Garretson, Chair, Pam Armstrong, Michael George, Bill Graf, Francis McBride, Elizabeth Webster, Recorder

Regrets: Kathy Batchelder, Serra Gauthier, Charles Koch, Bonnie Mitchell, Select Board Member

I. The meeting convened 7:00 PM.

MG reported on his participation in the NH Coverts Program, sponsored by the UNH Cooperative Extension. The program trains volunteers in aiding wildlife, with a commitment of outreach by each participant. Michael has committed to speaking about the program to the Conservation Commissions of Jaffrey, Rindge, and Fitzwilliam, as well as telling landowners about it. Michael's personal project is to help to develop a circumferential trail around the base of Mt. Monadnock. He was urged to connect with Francelia Clark, who wrote a book about doing it on horseback.

II. The minutes of the July 25 meeting were approved. The passing of Nora Barton Bryant, long-time member of the Conservation Commission, was observed. She will be much missed.

III. Financial Review – No statement. Some donations have been received in honor of Nora Barton Bryant.

IV. Ongoing Items

A. Wildlife Sighting Project – Members of the ConComm will have a table at the Scarecrows on the Commons, October 6. Set up at 10:30 AM, the table will be covered until 3:00 PM. Visitors will place numbered sticky dots on the Habitat Map to mark wildlife sightings, recording the number and the animal in an accompanying notebook. KB will present the project to the schools (EW will fulfill this if KB cannot).

B. CPCA – The culvert has been installed. It will now be possible to proceed with the manufacture and installation of the gates. A written proposal is needed from Ken Howe. Motion: To approve a 50% payment as a deposit for the gates, per Mr. Howe's written proposal. There are no Eagle Scouts to help with trail work at this time.

C. Education – Dr. Ben Kilham, who has been raising and returning orphaned black bears to the wild for years in New Hampshire, has worked with the Chinese government to create a program for panda cubs to succeed in the wild. Dr. Kilham has once again agreed to speak at the Jaffrey Meetinghouse at 7 PM on October 16. A payment of \$451.00 was approved and will be made. Posters advertising the event and notices in the newspaper need to be addressed ASAP, Michael George will make the posters and Fran McBride will write and send the newspaper articles, and will put it in the newspaper calendars.

D. Planning Board – Further discussion of the Belletete's property plan will take place October 9.

V. New Business

A. Nora's Commemoration – Members are urged to give thought to suitable memorials.

B. 481 Thorndike Pond Rd. – A site visit revealed significant undocumented excavation within shoreline and wetland areas. The ConComm visit was informational; the violations have been recorded.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next meeting will be held on October 24, 2018, 7PM at the Town Offices.