

Jaffrey Conservation Minutes Draft
Meeting held on Zoom June 17, 2020

Present: Carolyn D. Garretson, Chair, Pam Armstrong, Jim Bearce, Bill Graf, Charles Koch, Fran McBride, Elizabeth Webster, Aaron Abitz, Serra Gauthier, Kevin Chamberlain.

Regrets: Kathy Batchelder, Michael George

The June meeting of the Jaffrey Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, on Zoom because of the Covid19 directives. Notice was posted more than twenty-four hours in advance at the Jaffrey Municipal Building and the Town of Jaffrey website.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Carolyn Garretson, Chair, who read the Governor's Statement regarding online meetings.

The Minutes of May 20th were approved.

The Serviceberry and Hawthorn Viburnum were planted in Howard Park. Todd Croteau has included their watering as part of the DPW summer work.

Motion: To reimburse CDG for the Gator Bags purchased for the trees. Passed.

Nora's bench has been installed by Smitty's Landscaping. Aaron will submit the Invoice.

Motion: To approve payment of \$270 (\$250 previously approved). Passed.

Team Jaffrey is holding \$243 of donated Earth Day funds.

Motion: To contribute \$100 to the High School Marching Band Uniform Fund. Passed.

The Monadnock Conservancy has completed its acquisition of a portion of the Bearce property. The Jaffrey ConComm has pledged \$10,000 to assist in the purchase, therefore the July meeting will include a Public Hearing to provide notice of the donation.

36-A:5:2 The town treasurer, pursuant to RSA 41:29, shall have custody of all moneys in the conservation fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the conservation commission. The disbursement of conservation funds shall be authorized by a majority of the conservation commission. Prior to the use of such funds for the purchase of any interest in real property or for a contribution to a qualified organization for the purchase of property interests under RSA 36-A:4-a, I(b), the conservation commission shall hold a public hearing with notice in accordance with RSA 675:7.

675:7 Notice Requirements for Public Hearing. –

I. Notice shall be given for the time and place of each public hearing held under RSA 675:2-4 and RSA 675:6 at least 10 calendar days before the hearing. The notice required under this section shall not include the day notice is posted or the day of the public hearing. Notice of each public hearing shall be published in a paper of general circulation in the municipality and shall be posted in at least 2 public places. Any person owning property in the municipality may request notice of all public hearings on proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance, and the municipality shall provide notice, at no cost to the person, electronically or by first class mail.

Charity Square is privately owned, and therefore precluded from the benefit of any taxpayer funds, including payment for time. This complicates proceeding with plans for its conversion into a Community Demonstration Garden, except on an all-donation, all-volunteer basis. The field behind the Water Department, near the school athletic fields might be a viable alternative. Well-head protection might

not permit the planting of trees, though other plantings should be permissible. This site might encourage student participation. Other, more central parcels of Town Land are being sought as potential sites.

Howard Park has had the arbor vitae removed from around the large rock. Aaron proposes that the ConComm pay for approximately ten perennials to replant the area. Motion: To donate pollinator-friendly plants at a cost of \$150. Passed.

Lawn signs: Aaron would like the ConComm to endorse the creation of pollinator or sustainable gardens throughout the town by creating lawn signs of corrugated plastic. They might be used to mark ConComm projects in particular (Goodnow St., Howard Park planting, etc.), or could be to used wherever projects of this kind have been installed throughout the town (Library, Rec. Dept. garden, etc.) Aaron will speak to Heather Linstad about student design opportunities.

ZBA and PB: No wetlands issues.

Mail: CNBRLAC has assessed Jaffrey \$100 annual dues. Motion: To pay Jaffrey's annual dues. Passed. DES has published a new compendium of best practices for wetlands.

The meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.. Next scheduled meeting July 15, 7 p.m..