Jaffrey Conservation Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes March 17, 2021

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

Absent: Kathy Batchelder, Michael George

Guest: Herb Gramm

I. Meeting convened at 7PM. The March meeting of the Jaffrey Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 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 by Carolyn Garretson, Chair, who read the Governor's Statement regarding online meetings.

II. The Minutes of February's meeting were approved.

III. Financial Report. Spreadsheets provided via email. CDG has worked out minor glitches with the Finance Director.

IV. Ongoing

- A. Nutting Road Bridge. The effort to save the town \$15,000 in fines has led to an effort to put town lands (CPCA and/or Carey Park) into easements. CPCA is preferred, because it would protect the aquifer. Carey Park might be easier, because of its link to Children's Woods, which is already in an easement. However, neither the Monadnock Conservancy, nor the Forest Society are prepared to take this up at this point. The town cannot hold the easement on its own property.
- B. Education Programs. Saving Special Places is being offered online on April 10. CDG reports that, if sponsored, Matt Tarr is prepared to present a two-part outdoor program on May 14. The morning would be concerned with birds, the afternoon with buckthorn mitigation. AA has been working with Dave Jacke, who could present information on native plants for gardeners, perhaps in partnership with the Rec. Dept.. SG asked if links to native plant nurseries could be put on the website.
- C. ConComm Terms. Members should check with the Town Clerk about signing their oaths of office.
- D. CPCA. Coach Gascamp called CK to offer the services of 70 young men to haul lumber and begin assembling walkways and bridges on April 10. The cost of materials, previously estimated at \$4,000.00, is now approximately \$7,200.00. Motion: To approve up to \$8,000.00 for the purchase of lumber and hardware for the Loop Trail at Cheshire Pond. Passed. JB has ordered sample packages of possible trail markers, two different shapes and colors.
- E. PB. The board is hoping to increase downtown housing density through Conditional Use. This change will require a public hearing.
- F. Mail. A flyer for landowners: Caring for Your Forest. Ask CDG if you are interested. A letter from DES regarding the Dionne St. construction. Expressions of dismay about logging at the golf course. Annual report from the Monadnock Conservancy.

V. New Business

Earth Day. AA proposes planting replacement sugar maples on the Meetinghouse lawn and wildflowers at the intersection of Main St. and Harkness Rd. CDG will contact the Village Improvement Society. Motion: To approve payment of not more than \$250.00 for Earth Day plants. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. Next scheduled meeting should be April 21 at 7PM.