

Canterbury Conservation Commission

Canterbury, NH

Minutes of Meeting: April 10, 2025

Members Present: Kelly Short, vice-chair, Ken Stern, chair, Bob Steenson, Audra Klumb, Steve Seron, Theresa Wyman, Lance Messinger, Charlie Comey (alternate), Beth Blair (BOS Rep)

Members Absent: None

Kelly chaired the meeting and it was called to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Minutes:** Audra moved and Bob seconded approval of March 13, 2025 Minutes. Revisions were suggested and accepted. The Motion to accept the minutes as amended was approved. Kelly will make the revisions to the minutes and forward them on to Kal for posting.
2. **Property Management:**
 - a. **Bench at Schoodac-** There was discussion about the project to enhance the view lookout at the Schoodac Conservation Area. **Bob** offered to put some protective coating on the bench being offered by Beth. **Ken** offered to use his side by side vehicle to help transport materials to the site. A proposed date of **Saturday June 21st at 9 am** was agreed upon. **Ken** will reach out to Charlie Krautman to see if he wants to join in. The rain date is Sunday the 22nd.and Kelly visited the Schoodac Conservation Area in January to review placement of bench that will be donated by Beth Blair. We will need to arrange some gravel to set the bench on.
 - b. **Footbridge at Kimball Pond Dam-** There was discussion about plans for a foot bridge over the outlet spillway. It was agreed that we should have at least one handrail on the downstream side to enhance safety. Lance would like to have two hand rails to improve the appearance. The members agreed. **Lance** is going to seek cost information. He may be able to use the Town's account to get a discount. There was consensus that it would be a good idea to pre-cut the materials in a shop to ease assembly in the field. **Bob** offered his shop. A date was not set.
 - c. **Rocks at RSFCA.** The contractor we had lined up to bury the rocks has retired. **Ken** will seek out another contractor.
3. **Permits:** No permits at this time
4. **Conservation Projects:** Kelly reported that she had spoken with the folks at Five Rivers Conservation Trust about attending a landowner meeting. They were open to the idea. **Bob and Kelly** will revise the draft letter to landowners so it can also serve as an invitation to the meeting. We should have a proposed date soon, once we hear back from Five Rivers. This will most likely happen in June. **Kelly** will report back with potential dates.

5. **Membership/Officers:** Kelly researched our by-laws and it turns out that the chair can serve 3, two year terms for a total of 6 years. Ken is eligible for another term as chair and offered to serve. Kelly agreed to serve as vice chair. Lance agreed to serve as treasurer. The secretary position/minute taker will remain a rotating role among the members. Steve made a motion to approve the slate as proposed, Audra seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **By-Laws:** Kelly had sent around a copy of our by-laws. It was suggested that the members review them to see if anything should be revised. These are an internal document for the CCC. We have great discretion.
7. **Conservation lands map:** The Central NH Regional Planning Commission updated our conservation lands map. **Ken** will ask them to produce a large format print for display in the Meeting House. He will also ask them to re-run the co-occurrence scoring with the newly conserved properties entered into the calculation. **Kelly** will let Ken know which iteration of the co-occurrence map to run.

Note: We need to revise the labels in the legend.

The first category of conserved properties should read "Public or Non-Profit Owned Conservation Land"

The private lands categories should read "Private Property – Conservation Easement to Town" and "Private Property – Conservation Easement to Organization"

8. **Other Business-**

Ken reported that he had spoken with both the County Forester and the easement steward from the Forest Society about the ongoing timber harvest at the McGraw property/Hackleboro Orchard. This project is being performed in accordance with best management practices. There is a written plan, the work is being supervised by a licensed forester. This is a major harvest which will alter the appearance of the forest. It is designed to provide a sustainable source of forest products and enhance wildlife habitat.

There is a mandatory workshop for all appointed town officials about the Right to Know law. This is being held on Thursday April 17th at 6pm at the town hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Stern