

# Canaan Conservation Commission

## Minutes

March 1, 2021

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Len Reitsma, Thomas Oppel, Cody Hussey

Absent: Noel Everts, Alice Schori, Dave McAlister

### Minutes

Len moved we accept the minutes, Thomas seconded the motion, all approved.

### Proposed 'zoning'

Article 2 on the upcoming warrant has been billed as a zoning ordinance. It actually only affects the historic district, not Canaan at large, and doesn't involve any real change, just recategorizes some of the existing regulations. Thomas requested that if any of us are willing to personally endorse the bill, it would be appreciated.

The planning board is trying to educate the community about the actual intent of the article.

### The Kate Brooks Memorial

To date, the CCC has received over \$2,400

We discussed gathering more information about the proposed Community Center and consider planting a garden in Kate's honor there instead of planting a tree on the green. Elizabeth to email Dave M to gather more information about the Center.

### Mascoma Valley Preservation

MVP was awarded a grant towards the repairs of the freight shed.

In appreciation of the good work the MVP is doing, the CCC would like to make a contribution to the organization.

Bill moved that the CCC donate \$200 to the MVP. Thomas seconded. All approved.

### CCC: Land conservation Goals and discussion

Cody has received a few properties for consideration and will load them into his spreadsheet.

He is encouraging us to review areas near water and land bordering parcels that are already conserved.

## Commission Members

Bill Chabot: Chair,  
3 year term ending  
April 30, 2021

Len Reitsma:  
3 year term ending  
August 31, 2022

Elizabeth Chabot:  
Secretary,  
3 year term ending  
April 30, 2022

Thomas Oppel: 3  
year term ending  
January 2024

Cody Hussey:  
3 year term ending  
January 2024

### **Alternates:**

Alice Schori

Noel Everts

### **Selectboard Representative:**

Dave McAlister

There are some good mapping tools that could be useful if this project grows in scope- probably not worth spending money at this point, but if they could be obtained at a reduced cost, or better yet, free, they'd be helpful. Thomas to help Cody investigate if there is any local or state support for licensing some of the software tools.

April meeting- make the land conservation topic a focus of the meeting. In preparation, members should choose a couple of properties of interest with reasoning behind it.

#### Future Events:

- Earth Day Clean up: April 24, 2021 with Rain/snow date of April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Poster – add bitly link to the CCC page of the town website. Cody created the link, Elizabeth will ask Sharon if she can post information on the site.
- Add Covid precautions to the site.

#### New Funding for Forest Conservation

A national conservation group has set up an \$18 million fund to conserve forest in New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine, among other states, as a way to fight climate change. The upper valley is one of the target areas of focus for the group. The \$18 million dollar fund will be awarded as grants to local conservation projects.

Cody- moved that we research and apply for a grant. Thomas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Cody will investigate the core requirements and will report back to the group.

<https://www.nhpr.org/post/new-fund-focused-conserving-forest-nhs-upper-valley-monadnock-region-north-country#stream/0>

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Thomas

Next Meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2021

*Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot*