

# Canaan Conservation Commission

## Minutes

January 6, 2020

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Noel Everts, Len Reitsma, Alice Schori

Absent: Dave McAlister

### Minutes

November minutes were reviewed. Len moved to approve the minutes as presented, Alice seconded. Motion passed.

There was no meeting in December.

### Bird in Hand

The Annual Bird-in-Hand parcel has been completed. All is in good order.

Noel spent time cleaning up trails around the Nature Hut. Some of the trails could use some re-marking.

### Summer presentation

The Conservation Commission plans to host another talk this August. We're tentatively thinking the first Thursday in August. Len had an idea for a speaker and will reach out.

### The Kate Brooks Tree

Targeting April 18<sup>th</sup> providing the weather is good. 1pm. More details to follow.

### Earth Day Cleanup

April 18<sup>th</sup>, meet at the beach at 8:30 for bag distribution.

### Misc

- (This is still an open item.) Last meeting, Dave mentioned that The Canaan recreation department is interested in taking some kids on the trails in the Town Forest and they would be in contact with Bill or Len. Neither one of them has been contacted to-date. Dave said he'd follow up with Chelsea Martin.
- Dues for the NH Association of Conservation Commissions are due- \$275 per year
  - Bill moved we support the NHACC, Len seconded, motion passed. Bill will arrange payment.
- January 26<sup>th</sup> is the MWCC walkabout in the Mascoma State Forest. It consists of 219 acres with skid trails. Bill will scout out an entrance and determine if this is a good place to walkabout or not.
- BMCA/UVLT hike is scheduled for February 8. The plan is to start at the town forest and bushwhack to the BPNA. After a return journey, snacks will be served at the hut. Time TBD
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> is the annual BPNA snowshoe
- It has been noted that our roadcrew has some practices that are not helping curtail the spread of some invasives, particularly knotweed. Bill will investigate what DES might have posted and will report back. Possibly the CCC can work with

## 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

Two open seats

### **Alternates:**

Alice Schori

Noel Everts

### **Selectboard Representative:**

Dave McAlister

the road crew.

Motion to adjourn made by Len, seconded by Bill

Next Meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2020

*Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot*

# Canaan Conservation Commission

## Minutes

February 3, 2020

Attendees: Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Noel Everts, Alice Schori

Absent: Len Reitsma (but he sent some notes)

### Minutes

January minutes were reviewed. A few corrections were suggested: Dave M was absent, clarification needed for the Bird in Hand monitoring. Dave moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Alice seconded. Motion passed.

### Summer presentation

The Conservation Commission plans to host another talk this August. We're tentatively thinking the first Thursday in August. Bill to reach out to Mike Samson to book the date

The first person we had considered as a speaker cannot commit at this time; Len is pursuing other options.

### The Kate Brooks Tree

Targeting April 18<sup>th</sup> providing the weather is good. 1pm. More details to follow.

### Earth Day Cleanup

April 18<sup>th</sup>, meet at the beach at 8:30 for bag distribution.

### Town Website review

The CCC section of the website hasn't been updated in years. The portion focused on Len's work with the school kids at the Town Forest either needs updating, or dates removed.

Possibly a section on invasives

### Roadside Invasives

- At the last meeting we talked briefly about what information might be available on DES's website to help our roadcrews deal with invasives appropriately. Bill said there is a fair amount of information on the website. One thing the CCC might be able to do to help is identify specific sites of invasives and work on an education/eradication plan with the road crew. More conversation to be had on this topic.

### Misc

- The Canaan recreation department is undergoing some changes, so we shouldn't expect any near-term engagement
- Dues for the NH Association of Conservation Commissions are due- \$275 per year
  - Bill moved we support the NHACC, Len seconded, motion passed. Bill will arrange payment.
- CCC/UVLT hike is scheduled for February 8. The plan is to start at the town forest

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Dave McAlister

and bushwhack to the BPNA. After a return journey, snacks will be served at the hut. Time TBD

- February 22<sup>nd</sup> is the annual BPNA snowshoe
- It has been noted that our roadcrew has some practices that are not helping curtail the spread of some invasives, particularly knotweed. Bill will investigate what DES might have posted and will report back. Possibly the CCC can work with the road crew.

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Dave

Next Meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2020

*Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot*

# Canaan Conservation Commission

## Minutes

May 4, 2020

Attendees: Alice Schori, Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Noel Everts, Len Reitsma

### Minutes

- March minutes were reviewed. Len moved we approve the minutes as presented, Noel seconded. Motion passed.

### The Kate Brooks Award for local Conservation

Had been scheduled for April but was tabled due to the virus.

We agreed that Elizabeth would touch base with gardener's supply to see if they're getting trees in mid-May like they had thought when she called in March. We'll keep tabs on the governor permitting groups to meet and will perhaps consider planting soon and dedicating later

### Summer Presentations

Currently on hold

### Earth Day Clean-up

A socially distanced clean up was held. No bag count recorded

### Town Forest

The forest could use a spring cleaning. Len volunteered to take in the chain saw and open up any trails. Bill and Elizabeth will come afterwards and remark the trails.

### Misc

Bill forwarded a permit request from Bear Hill Conservancy, relevant to some stream work they are planning in an effort to create native brook trout habitat. Please forward any comments by end of week.

Motion to adjourn made by Len, seconded by Dave

Next Meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2020

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3 year term ending  
August 31, 2022

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

Two open seats

### **Alternates:**

Alice Schori

Noel Everts

### **Selectboard Representative:**

Dave McAlister

*Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot*

# Canaan Conservation Commission

## Minutes

March 2, 2020

Attendees: Alice Schori, Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Noel Everts, Len Reitsma

### Minutes

- February minutes were reviewed. Dave moved we approve the minutes as presented, Len seconded. Motion passed.

### **The Kate Brooks Award for local Conservation**

Targeting April 18 provided the weather is good. More details to come. Elizabeth will contact Gardener's supply regarding tree availability.

### **Summer Presentations**

Kathleen Peters recently presented to Bird and Garden on invasive species. Len will reach out to her to gauge her interest in presenting at the August talk.

Len will let Bill know if she confirms so Bill can book the meetinghouse.

### **Earth Day Clean-up**

Scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup>. Meet at the beach at 9:00 for bag and glove distribution.

### **Town Website review**

Len will review the section regarding the school tours and will make suggestions for updates.

Perhaps there should be a tab with information regarding Invasives. Enfield has a link to upland invasive species.

### **Roadside Invasives**

We talked a bit more about the DES website and information regarding invasives. No plan how to provide more education to the road crew as of yet.

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Len

Next Meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2020

*Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot*

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Noel Everts

### **Selectboard Representative:**

Dave McAlister

# Canaan Conservation Commission

## Minutes

November 2, 2020

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Alice Schori

Absent: Len Reitsma, Dave McAlister, Noel Everts

### Minutes

There have been no meetings since May. Those minutes need to be reviewed at the next meeting.

### Town Forest

Len cleaned up the trails of downed timber. Bill remarked all but the blue trail. Len has privately mentioned to Bill that we should replace the walkway over the beaver dam. We'll need to discuss this as a project

### Bird in Hand

Bill and Elizabeth walked the northern parcel last weekend and there were no issues. We diverted onto the Bear Pond property and had a great view of the pond. Bill will file the report with the state.

Alice has walked the rail trail several times over the past few months and has not seen anything out of order.

### The Kate Brooks Tree

The farmers market was very busy this summer. Alice noted that the spot we'd previously identified to place Kate's tree might encroach on the space required by the market. We should re-think the location.

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Alice

Next Meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2020

*Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot*

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Noel Everts

### **Selectboard Representative:**

Dave McAlister



# Canaan Conservation Commission

## Minutes

December 7, 2020

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Len Reitsma, Alice Schori

Absent: Dave McAlister, Noel Everts

Special guests: Thomas Oppel, Cody Hussey

The meeting opened with Thomas and Cody introducing themselves and Bill providing a brief overview of the CCC.

### Earth Day

Earth day is April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021. Len moved that we hold the annual clean up on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April with a rain/snow date of the 25th. Alice seconded. All approved.

We need to explain how we're going to set up the sign up and glove/bag distribution.

### Annual talk

The CCC would like to hold a talk this year- it's debatable if it can be held in person, but we should decide who we would like as a speaker and determine later if the venue is zoom, outside, or inside the meetinghouse.

### Misc notes on conservation

We've had past conversations regarding parcels of land in Canaan of interest for conservation. One in particular is a 20 acre town forest parcel.

Thomas asked if we have a map of desired parcels. Len offered that UVLT has a map and we can partner with those entities. However, we should take a look at what we think is critical that we could help leverage. Len noted that there are many small parcels that look inconsequential on the surface, but when combined with tangential parcels, could be significant if conserved.

Homework: Review the tax maps- see if any parcels make sense to possibly target for sensible conservation.

Motion to adjourn made by Alice, seconded by Len

Next Meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2021

*Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot*

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