

**Cambridge Conservation Commission Minutes  
December 8, 2016  
Jeffersonville United 2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational Church**

**Present:** Justin Marsh (chair), Tim Larned, John Hayden, Sara Lourie, Lucy Higgins, Jake O'Connor. Member in training: Oliver Laxer.

Meeting came to order at 6:10 pm.

**Minutes**

- Minutes from November read and accepted.

**Budget**

- Justin reported that he had attended the Finance Committee meeting last night. CJ Manchester had wondered why the CCC was requesting less funding this year. Justin said that it was a strict budget based on what we forecast that we would need. Rick Marsh couldn't understand Jean's method of accounting in the budget / P&L (although Nancy Putnam defended it). The FC asked for a more detailed breakdown regarding specific programs.
- Lucy suggested that the FC should provide a template for town budgets so that they are all in the same format.

**Board Membership**

- Jacob Bailey appeared before the Select Board on 11/21 and is now an official CCC member
- Don Lange has officially resigned his position with CCC

**Orange Up Day / Green Up Day**

- Justin reported that Orange Up Day got started before the snow began on 11/20. Bags were distributed from The Farm Between and about 10 people participated.
- Next year we should publicize it in the school newsletter.

**Storm Water Mitigation**

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at CES worked with someone from the LCPC and painted two rain barrels as part of the Storm Water Project

**Nebraska Notch**

- Sara shared her idea about acquiring a 17 acre property at the end of Stevensville Rd in Underhill, putting a conservation easement on it and possibly renovating the old cabin on the land as an environmental education space.
- John asked whether she could be as passionate about somewhere in Cambridge. Discussion ensued about the old Fish & Game Club and Brewster Uplands Conservation Trust. Dave May and Roger Allen may be the people to contact about the Fish & Game Club since the Boy Scouts were using it. West Farm (Angus Baldwin and Holly Simpson) was also mentioned as it is owned by the Vermont Land Trust.

**Hiking Club**

- Sara reported that there had been two hikes so far: the first on 11/13 to Nebraska Notch (10 people) and second on 12/4 to Prospect Rock (7 people). Both were very enjoyable.

**Nature Report**

- Lucy reported seeing turkeys and a Red Tailed Hawk.
- John saw a 200-300 crows on his way back from Montpelier (educational tidbit – a group of crows is called a murder, and a group of owls is called a parliament)
- Justin saw deer and Sara reported a large group of turkeys

**Other Business**

- There will be an LCPC information session at GMTCC regarding Municipal Energy Plans on 12/12 and one on River Corridors on 1/18 in Morrisville. John pointed out that discussions about solar energy (especially large-scale projects) do not take into account the 'embodied energy' and other costs involved in the manufacture of the solar panels etc. He feels that more work should be focused on conservation of energy. Discussion ensued as to how that can be achieved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sara Lourie