

**Orford Conservation Commission (OCC)**  
**Meeting Minutes: November 18, 2021**  
**Meeting held in person at the Niles Room in the Town Offices**

**Present:** Members: Ted Cooley (Chair), John Miller (Vice Chair), Craig Putnam, Carl Schmidt, Alternates: Emily Bryant, Fran Plaisted

Meeting called to order 7:05pm.

Emily and Fran were seated for the meeting.

Charlie Smith attended briefly. He explained that he started 2 years ago bee keeping. He is willing to set up a beehive at some of the areas that we want to set up pollinator garden.

Ted Cooley passed around a form to sign up for state Conservation Committee that all members provided contact information.

**Minutes of September of 2021.**

Emily moved that we pass the 9/16/2021 minutes with no changes, Carl seconded. Motion carried

Carl Cassel has resigned from the Orford Conservation Commission effective 11/11/2021.

Orford Conservation Committee wanted to thank Tom Bubolz and Carl Cassell for their years of service on the conservation committee and Tom's dedication of years of collecting water samples and Carl's dedication and assistance with tax records etc. Fran agreed to send message to list serve.

Ted has no update on the budget. Feedback regarding additional testing of beach was appreciated by the town.

Invoices: Invoice for \$80 for September and from early November. John moved we authorize payment, Fran seconded. Motion carried.

Ted proposed that the chair be authorized to issue payment for mowing without a board meeting. Emily second. Motion carried.

Pollinator update and we missed the informational gathering in Lyme.

We need to check the email more regularly. Emily agreed to have the messages to her account and review them.

We will continue to do recruiting to get more involved. We have two open commission positions and 3 alternate positions open. We need to get more people to help out.

2021 Report for the NH Forest Society. Emily is going to go and track the land. It is on Piermont Heights Road.

Perhaps we can reach out to offer events in the winter like snowshoe hikes to help solicit members

We need to mow the Richmond Property. We need to open up the trail as it grew up last year. May require some more extensive work since we did not get down this fall.

NRS- local river subcommittee. Ted will share information regarding the damn relicensing. Look at studies of bank erosion and access points.

Carl updated the project from Fairlee, VT. Cut down all the trees from the bank to the river. Dug down and inserted drainage pipe with no approval from the upper valley River subcommittee. Said it was water coming off of Route 5. VTRANS put this drain in. Huge effort from letting runoff go into the river. This will be on the agenda.

Send photos to the Ted to update the website.

We may want to have a photo show/ contest at the Orford Town Meeting.

Emily will email Alison about having a snowshoe hike. Ted will email RTA to see if we can coordinate an event.

Revisiting the concept of a charging station in Orford, NH. Perhaps we can coordinate this with the Energy Committee on this.

Information from Upper Valley Trails Alliance. Conservation Easement on land owned by Bob and Christie Hedges.

John moved we adjourn, Carl Seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59  
Next meetings: December 16, 2021.

Minutes taken by Fran Plaisted.