**Mont Vernon Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes(draft)**

**Wednesday February 21, 2024** @ **7:30** **at the Firehouse**

**Present**: Adrienne Gosselin, Joanne Draghetti, Peter Tedder, Judy Brophy, Shelley Brooks.

7:30PM Meeting called to order & Alternates seated.

7:32PM **Acceptance of previous months’ minutes**:

 Peter made motion, Judy 2nd, motion passed.

7:34PM **Presentation & motion to pay bills**

* none

7:35PM **Correspondence**

* Reviewed subdivision plan for Salisbury Road from PB.
* **Letter from NH DES re: 78 Brook Road, Tax/Lot#5-41**. NH DES was notified on Dec. 27, 2022 of a wetland violation occurring on this property involving “unpermitted stream crossings, unpermitted culverts, and other impacts to streams & wetlands, which are violations of RSA 482-A:3,I(a)”. Despite multiple letters to the property owner, Robert Lenza, to comply with NH DES it appears there has not been a response. A second letter from NH DES dated Jan. 18, 2024 NHDES stated outstanding requests remains and Mr. Lenza was given a date of Feb. 1, 2024 to comply and contact DES. A third letter from NHDES to Mr. Lenza dated Feb, 8, 2024 requests he contact them to resolve these issues as soon as possible. The Conservation Commission is able to make recommendations and report wetland violations to NH DES, but is not an enforcement body of the town. The MVCC discussed bringing this matter to Select Board so they could decide how to best handle it, or take any actions on what appears to be an outstanding wetland violation. Adrienne will email Select Board, and cc the Code Officer. Joanne will drop off copies of the NH DES letters to Select Board at town hall.

7:36PM **New Business:**

* **Spring Trail Work**: Adrienne asked for ideas and discussion ensued on various tasks needed on conservation trails in town. Joanne suggested trying to tackle some of the wet areas that may need work on the North Wah Lum Trail. Shelley stated some trees were down at Havinga Woods that may need to be removed. Adrienne scheduled **Sunday, March 3rd , @ 10:00 am** for the CC to meet to evaluate conditions on the **North Wah Lum Trail** and **Havinga Woods**. Shelley reported a tree down across the beanpot at Upper Purgatory Falls and stated it could be a safety hazard. Guest, Andrew Sclafani, volunteered to take a look at it to see if he could possibly remove it safely and will let us know. Judy reported that Horton Pond needs some clipping and clearing, especially around the sign which is hard to see. Joanne suggested a new sign to be ordered this coming year. Plans for Horton Pond will be discussed next month.

8:00PM **Old Business:**

* **Roger Pinchard Conservation Land**
	+ Parking, kiosk: Located on Francestown Turnpike
	+ Adrienne scheduled **Sunday, April 14th to walk property**.
* **Sign Installation & Kiosks:**
	+ Herlihy Swamp, Hebert Forest & Horton Pond: Adrienne will ask Ben Crosby @ DPW if they can help.
* **Road to New Library/Cemetery:** Adrienne sent letter to Select Board stating Spencer Tate has not contacted Peter to discuss our recommendations for drainage issues that could negatively affect Carleton Pond related to the proposed new road for the Library. Adrienne stated that Selectmen, John Quinlan has reached out to Meridian to contact Peter to follow up. Peter reported he still has not heard from Meridian, but will contact them again (despite multiple previous attempts over the past several months). The MVCC would like to have confirmation that our recommendations have been instituted into the current plan for the proposed new road, especially prior to upcoming Town Meeting.

8:50PM **Public Time:** Andrew Sclafani, resident at 20 Wilton Road, expressed interest in volunteering with the MVCC as an Alternate. Adrienne will email Select Board with recommendation from MVCC to appoint Andrew as an Alternate.

* Next meeting monthly meeting *scheduled* **March 6th, 2024 (due to town meeting held on March 13th.)**

9:00PM **Meeting Adjourned,** Pete motioned, Shelley 2nd, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by, Joanne Draghetti, Secretary, Mont Vernon Conservation Commission.