**Mont Vernon Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday October 11, 2023** @ **7:30** **at Town Hall**

7:35PM Call Meeting to order: Alternates seated.

7:37PM **Acceptance of previous months’ minutes:** Joanne: motion to correct minutes Legal Research from $5 to $2500, Delia 2nd, motion passed. Jay: motion to accept & approve corrected minutes, Tom 2nd, motion passed.

7:40PM **Presentation & motion to pay bills**

* Jay: motion to reimburse Fred Reis on Rangeway Rd. $200 for gas for mowing View Lots from Land View Mgmt. Line item, Shelley 2nd, motion passed.

7:45PM **Correspondence**

* **Alex Smith:** Inquiring re: trail conditions and status of bridge from Lyndeborough. Adrienne will contact him with info.
* **Jaren Noorda:** asked about possibility of removing Old Mill Dam from Herlihy swamp to assist with fish flow & migration. Discussion ensued re: pros & cons. Tom mentioned the historical significance of the dam. Jay stated although this year is wet, most years the water under the dam dries up and doesn’t flow. Shelley said there is a trend toward removing dams to restore fish habitat. Delia questioned how would it impact the wetlands and Herlihy swamp? Adrienne suggested Jaren pursue researching the impacts by contacting environmental scientists or experts in the State and what the cost of an environmental study would be, and report back to the MVCC.

7:46PM **New Business:**

* **Town Report** is due in January, Adrienne requested input.
* **Mowing No. Wah Lum & Hebert Town Forest**: Joanne reported NWL is very overgrown and needs to be mowed, is Lou Springer available. Jay: motion not to exceed $650 to pay for mowing of NWL & Hebert Town Forest, from Land View Management line item, Shelley 2nd ,motion passed. Tom volunteered to contact Lou to see if he’s available.

8:00PM **Old Business:**

* **Invasive Species Spraying** research: Delia spoke to Beth Cordwell at Pesticide Control Division Dept. of NH Agriculture Dept. (603)271-3550, waiting to hear back from her for name of licensed sprayer.
* **Phillipi CE Walk (Forest Society):**Pete scheduled Sunday @10am.
* **Sign Installation**
  + Herlihy Swamp and Hebert Forest: Tom will see if Lou Springer is available to dig post holes.
  + Previous voting: post digging expenditure (up to $450)
    - Includes kiosk for Horton Pond
* Kiosks Updates
  + - Hebert – Boy Scouts, Ryan Korkuc yard sale to raise money for supplies needed to build kiosk.
  + Horton Pond– Jim Bird
    - Ready to Install, waiting for post holes.

**Plastic Recycling**: Joanne reported some neighbors not happy with no recycling of plastics at the transfer station. Joanne said NH Municipal Association had an article about a non-profit org.(North East Resource Recovery Assoc.) is helping NH municipalities with resources to recycle plastics. Joanne volunteered to contact them to get information on how they can help and if it would be feasible to approach DPW & Selectmen with info. Joanne stated if there’s no recycling of plastic maybe we can help educate citizen’s on reducing the use of plastic. Tom said there is a store in Bedford that sells bulk items, Shelley stated an organization called Trex collects stretchable plastic at Market Basket & Shaw’s. She said the company will donate a plastic bench if a certain # of lbs. is collected by a group of people. She suggested after the holidays we explore that idea.

8:36PM **Public Time:** Transaction of any **other MVCC Business**: Shelley reported she volunteered to work with summer intern from NRPC to map trails in town. Many trails need work, especially requiring chain saws due to downed trees. Discussed identifying areas that need most work & schedule trail work session.

* Next meeting monthly meeting scheduled **November 8, 2023**

8:37PM Jay: motion to adjourn, Tom 2nd.**Meeting Adjourned.**

**Respectfully submitted by,**

**Joanne Draghetti, Secretary, Mont Vernon Conservation Commission**