

Meeting Minutes

Mont Vernon Conservation Commission

Meeting Date: April 11, 2018

Present: Joanne Draghetti, Shelley Brooks, MaryJean MacGillivray, Michelle Riesselman, Arthur Rounds, (Judy Brophy, Jeff Johnson, seated)

Meeting brought to order: 7:31 PM @ MV Town Hall

Review January Minutes: Minutes reviewed. Arthur made a motion to accept the minutes as read and Jeff seconded. Minutes accepted by all.

New Business/Guests:

Chris Wells, president/executive director of the Piscataquog Land Conservancy

Joanne made a quick summary of the MVCCs past land acquisitions, the town's financial changes over time and our present situations. She discussed that increased conservation lands also requires increased attention. Joanne also talked about a past and possibly future presentation to Mont Vernon residents on the types and benefits of putting their property into conservation.

Chris Wells gave the history of the PLC, which now covers most of Hillsborough County. The PLC would like to be more available to help the MVCC conservation plans. He recommended us to list the top 10 pieces of property in MV, update the NRPC map data, and determine possible third party easements to be held by PLC.

Easement and stewardship costs on significant parcels would approximately cost \$10,000, staff time \$5,000 plus survey costs.

Election Officers:

Jeff proposed and Mary Jean seconded Joanne for Chair. She was unanimously elected

Michelle proposed and Arthur seconded Jay for Vice Chair. He was unanimously elected

Michelle proposed and Shelley seconded Mary Jean for secretary with an agreement to rotate all other members (Arthur excluded) to record the minutes in turn. She was unanimously elected.

Michelle proposed and Mary Jean seconded to have Joanne and Shelley continue for another 3 year term. They were unanimously elected.

Presentation and motion to pay bills:

Joanne reviewed the FB Environmental offer to assist MV's revision on existing wetland regulations with the aim to increase protections for our wetlands. Arthur proposed and Shelley seconded the motion to spend \$2,750 as the initial payment to begin this process. The vote was passed unanimously.

MV Chatter and Facebook use discussion:

Michelle discussed how she had seen on MV Chatter a lot of questions on Carleton pond and had asked MVCC the best way to answer these questions such as a link to our town website. Joanne and Jay had voiced concern about using MV chatter as a way to communicate to the MV community. Joanne stated that the town does not have a written policy on the use of social media but the town advises using the town website for official business. Jay sent Joann email recommending not to place any official documents on social media. Arthus was very concerned that discussions on social media can become very confused and altered and strongly recommended staying away from MV chatter.

Michelle proposed and Shelley seconded the MVCC to place a link on MV Chatter to the MVCC site on the town website describing the Carleton pond plan. The motion passed with six yeas and one abstention.

Old Business:

Carleton Pond Landscaping discussion presented by Mary Jean.

The MVCC Carleton landscape committee has been working with Ryan Foster and Catherine Magee of natural resources conservation services in Hillsborough county. Plants have been ordered for planting through Hillsborough county and Ryan has additional plants.

The berm on the right side of the pond will need reinforcing after flooding this winter. Steve Trombly will do this along with additional fill for \$11,000. DPW will spread the loam.

Mary Jean and Ryan will go before the board of the Trustees with the landscape plan diagram and ask for the offered \$5,000 donation. Shelley proposed and Michelle seconded a motion to spend \$2,000 toward fill and base of the handicapped path from the Rotary grant. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Mill Estate property discussion presented by Michelle:

Michelle discussed her meeting with the planning board on April 10th. A review of the check list for open space development did not require public access to the open space. Michelle reported that this has been added to the list. This inquiry was made because the Old Mill Estate property does not have any public access. It was noted that there may be access via the Bancroft open space on route 13.

Review of lot 1-21-3.

Joanne reported that DES has not received all the required information for the wetlands disturbance on this property and therefore may not be accepted.

Review work done on Archibald and Hebert properties: Joanne informed that the signs were placed on these properties and Larry and Barry would have the Archibald Kiosk ready at **the** end of April or beginning of May. She also informed the MVCC that the Hebert lot kiosk has fallen due to rot.

Jeff made a motion to adjourn and Shelley seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.