

## Mont Vernon Conservation Commission

Meeting Date: January 13, 2016

Meeting brought to order: 7:32 PM @ MV Town Hall

Present: Shelley Brooks, Jay Wilson, Joanne Draghetti, Larry Yetter, Garth Witty. Tom Wahle Garth Witty and Tom Wahle were seated by Larry Yetter

Review December Minutes - Minutes reviewed. Jay made a motion to accept December minutes, Garth seconded and minutes approved by all present.

7:40 Presentation and Motions to Pay Bills: Jay presented an invoice from NH Association of Conservation Commissions for yearly dues of \$296.00. Jay made a motion and Garth seconded and all present agreed to pay the annual dues/fees/workshops for 2016 which is line item #461210.

7:42 Review any correspondence: Larry discussed some correspondence from the Stoddard CC re. the NH Fish and Game initiating an open season on trapping Bobcats...Stoddard CC is not in favor and was looking for our opinion. After much discussion by the CC regarding the pros and cons of the change by the NH Fish and Game to the existing hunting/trapping rules for Bobcats the MVCC agreed to take no action. Tom made a motion to respond to the Stoddard CC of our intentions to take no action in the Stoddard request. The MVCC vote was divided with one against, 2 abstaining and 4 in agreement. Larry will follow up with the Stoddard CC re. our decision.

7:55 Guest Speakers – No Guest Speakers

7:56 Old Business:

Master Plan Update- Joanne informed us that she and Annette are continuing their work on the Master Plan.

7 Wilton Road Wetlands Permit- As per the discussion with the homeowners re. their plans to continue to

excavate into a wetland area on their property, it was agreed that a Wetlands Permit would be required to do that work. We will be notified. Larry will follow up with the State to see if a permit was issued and also send a letter to the Property owner confirming our visit to see if the permit was submitted.

MVCC Facebook Page- Larry has set up a facebook page for the MVCC which identifies the general purposes of our commission. It was felt that being on facebook would provide us with the opportunity to receive feedback and disseminate any information that would be pertinent to our activities. Larry and Earle will be the administrators of the page. Shelley volunteered to help with monitoring activity on page and will set up her own account so that she will be able to do so.

8:30 New Business:

Carleton Pond Fund Raising- The CC agreed that having an event at Carleton Pond again this year would bring attention to this project of reclaiming the pond and the area around it. It was agreed that having a Winter Carnival where people could skate, sled and snowshoe would be fun for all. The CC will provide

Hot cocoa and goodies and possibly music. Weather permitting, the date for the carnival will be Sunday, Jan 31st from 1 to 3 PM. We will also have the Ice Out Contest again this year. People will be able to pick the date that they think the ice will be gone and Spring arrives. Tom Wahle and Shelley will set up the diver's flag in the pond in a deeper area this year. The flag will pop up when the ice opens up. Tickets for the contest will be \$5, and will be sold by members of the CC. There will also be a prize for the winner of the contest.

Change March CC Meeting Date- Due to the fact that the Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for March 9th which is in conflict with the scheduled date of our March CC Meeting, Jay made a motion to change the date of the CC Meeting to March 2nd. Shelley seconded, all agreed to the March 2nd date.

New Hampshire Wildlife Maps- Joanne informed the CC that all NH Wildlife Action Maps have been updated. These maps document the number of species of greatest concern around the state. These maps will allow us to see the available habitats, be it forest or grasslands, for certain species.

Vermont Center Ecological Studies - Joanne found information from the VT Center Study that she thought would be helpful to us for land management purposes. Joanne will contact them to confirm that we would be interested.

Northern Woodlands Magazine - Joanne introduced us to a copy of the Northern Woodlands Magazine. The magazine had myriad of information that would be very helpful to the CC. Jay suggested that we could get a subscription as it would be very interesting to see what projects and initiatives, etc. are going on in the state. [www.northernwoodlands.org](http://www.northernwoodlands.org)

Trail Caution Sign- Joanne will place a Trail caution sign at the Dow Road and Wah Lum Kiosks that states: Trails Not Maintained In Winter – Hike @ Your Own Risk

Respectfully Submitted,

MaryJean MacGillivray

Our next meeting will be February 10th, 2016.