

Meeting Minutes

Mont Vernon Conservation Commission

Meeting Date: October 12, 2016

Meeting brought to order: 7:34 PM @ MV Town Hall

Present: Larry Yetter, Jay Wilson, Joanne Draghetti, MaryJean MacGillivray, Earle Rich, Shelley Brooks (Tom Wahle, seated) Annette Immorlicia, Planning Board Representative

-
Review September Minutes – September minutes reviewed. Earle made a motion to accept amended minutes; Joanne seconded. All present agreed. The minutes were approved.

7:45 Presentation and Motions to Pay Bills: Received an invoice for the annual dues to the NH Association of Conservation Commissions for \$296 for fiscal year 2017. It was agreed that we would renew our membership. Joanne made a motion to pay the dues, Shelley seconded, and the motion carried.

Jay presented an invoice he received for the sign posts that we purchased from Blue Seal in the amount of \$126. Mary Jean made a motion to pay the \$126. Joanne seconded and the motion carried.

7:46 Review any correspondence: Received copy from DES, via email, of the wetlands permit for the driveway crossing on Old Amherst Road which has been approved. No further actions are required by the MVCC. Regarding the 60 inch 32 foot long reinforced concrete culvert.

NH Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Meeting, to be held at Pembroke Academy on November 12, 2016.

(FYI from Planning Board) Mont Vernon Building Inspector received information from the DES (Dept of Environmental Services) regarding Best Management Practices (BMP) for ground water protection, especially any contamination sources. The DES is asking that the Planning Board amend the municipal zoning so local regulations require compliance with BMP. This is not an action item for the CC.

Mont Vernon Artisans asked for the MVCC to be sponsors of their raffle at their The MVCC elected not to engage in the Open Doors event due to personnel time availability challenges.

Donation to Carleton Pond Restoration Fund in the amount of \$5000 was received from the Joseph Carleton Family. Joanne did send a thank you note to Mr. & Mrs. Joe Carleton, Jr.

8:10 Guest Speakers:

Andrew Pieper and Final Report on Eagle Project Report

Andrew addressed the CC and informed us that he has nearly completed the project. He calculated that he has a total of approximately 122 man hours, which includes other volunteers, he organized for this project. He estimates there are approximately two hours remaining for some final adjustments to the trail as well as placing trail information in the Kiosk. Andrew did some fund raising for this project by having a bake sale. Any remaining revenue from this project he plans to donate to the MVCC. (Carleton Pond Restoration designated with this donation.) When Andrew is ready, Larry will sign off on this project. The CC will also place information in the Kiosk explaining the project, and giving credit to Andrew and the Eagle Scout

Project for a job well done. The MVCC thanked Andrew for all his diligence in completing this project, and for a job well done. Larry gave Andrew an AMC book, Maintaining Trails that Andrew will give to his troop for their library.

2.

David Haag - Interested in joining the MVCC

David is a relatively new resident to Mont Vernon that has an extensive background in the forestry industry and much of his life's work has revolved around natural resource management. The MVCC was happy to meet David and told him he would be most welcome. Larry explained that we currently have seven regular commission members, but gave him the option of joining the CC as an alternate. Larry explained the role of the alternate vs. full commission member and the nuances involved. Larry further explained that there was a possibility that we may lose two regular members next year as their terms are expiring in March. At that time there would be an opening for a regular member. David agreed that he would like to join the CC as an alternate member. Jay said that in order to make it official we would need to make note of it in our minutes and also notify the Selectmen. Jay made a motion that MVCC nominate David Haag as alternate member of the CC, and that we will notify the Selectman's office regarding our request. Earle seconded and all agreed. Motion Passed. Larry will forward David's email to Selectmen and the CC acceptance of David joining the commission as an alternate member.

8:50 Old Business -

2017 Budget Submittal to Selectman

Budget hearing scheduled for Monday 10/17 @ 7:30 PM for all town departments to review their individual budgets prior to submitting to the selectmen. Jay will plan to attend on our behalf. Larry will send an electronic copy of the CC Budget out to the CC for their records. Annette requested that she be included on the email mailing list for this information as well as all CC notifications. Email list will be upgraded with Annette's and David's email.

Joanne had a question regarding getting professional help to develop a wetlands ordinance. She has approached the Pelham CC to see who they contracted with for the Wetlands Ordinance they developed. and the **cost**. At this time Joanne has not heard back with a dollar amount. If we can get this amount before Monday night, Larry can adjust the budget accordingly. If we don't receive the info prior to Monday night, we will entertain doing a warrant article if necessary.

Signage to complete on Wah Lum – There are approximately 9 posts and 10 signs left to install on the WahLum trails, and other conservation areas. Friday the 21st at 9:30 was agreed upon to meet at Dow Road for the install. Earle, Larry and Barry and Shelley will do the install. If the work cannot be completed that day an additional work day will be designated.

Horton Road Pond Project Update – Earl informed the CC that the pond has been pumped and the actual digging of the ditch has been delayed until next Monday or Tuesday. Trees have been cut. The project is proceeding slowly.

Springer Easement Walk Report 2016 – At this time Lou Springer is having a timber harvest done on the property. It was very interesting to see Proctor Hill Forestry doing the selective cutting. Lou is overseeing the project so that he can maintain certain stands of trees as well as maintain the integrity of the property for the future. The foresters were doing a very good job. Everything looked good and within the confines of the conservation easement. No violations noted. The MVCC has the responsibility of monitoring the easement for SPNF every year. Joanne completed the report, and submitted electronically to the Society for the Protection Forests.

Planning Board Report- Annette Immorlicia - Annette asked that the CC come up with conservation language for the Brett Vaughn development because going forward there will probably be a need for easement restrictions and wetland protection. The Planning Board accepted Vaughn application for the subdivision at their meeting on October 4, 2016. Because this new sub-division is a grid, Vaughn is not

responsible for water diverted off his property. To date, the planning board had not heard from the MVFD regarding any fire hazards. Without the MVFD approval this application is still in the approval process.

3.

There is a 65 day approved or deny window on the application. November 8th is the next Planning Board Meeting. There is also a site walk scheduled for Sunday, 10/23/16 @ 9 AM on Vaughn Subdivision.

To date, there are no conservation easements on the lots. There are still questions regarding the wetlands and how they will be addressed. We know that there are vernal pools on some of the wetlands near the Carleton property. The developer is not sure that the 5 recommendations that we submitted in September are going to be compatible with his current plans.

Joanne raised the issue of flooding issues from the culvert drainage, runoff, etc., and who would be responsible for any damage that might occur. Because the developer is currently only doing 9 houses he does not have to do drainage calculations. The drainage requirements that may or may not be required are driven by the State and the Town. The State gives the PB 65 days to approve or deny the application unless both sides agree to extend. Larry asked if there were any actions that the CC needs to do at this point in time. Annette suggested that we go on the site walk on October 23rd. Joanne and Larry will go on the site walk. Jay suggested that Joanne, as an abutter, might want to send a letter to the Selectmen regarding the impact from the water drainage coming down the hill and the fact that this drainage will affect two roads.

Joanne will put together some conservation easement language from several sources for us to review to see if there are any pertinent requirements that might be applicable to this case. Because there are so many variables in this situation it was suggested that a work session would help sort out all the information that has been discussed, and give the CC a better overview of the project, and the responsibility the CC has.

Topics for discussion at the work session:

1. 1. A restriction along Upton Road as it is a Class 6 Road,
2. 2. Wetlands Buffer restrictions

3. Tree management best practices

9:00 New Business-

Carleton Trust Map 7, Lot 64, Larry mentioned that the logger who is doing the cutting has a question about the tax map, and does not have a correct or adequate map. He was concerned that there was town owned property incorrectly shown on the tax map. The conservation commission has no involvement as a conservation commission in this issue, and he will have to pursue getting better maps from the town. Jay said that the logger will have to do some research to get a more accurate map of the property.

Building Questionnaire - Larry has completed the questionnaire and will submit. Jay suggested that a valid suggestion to add would be proper HVAC in the meeting area, as there is no heat in the winter.

Because there has been noted some concern regarding hunters and hunting season. The CC will post and awareness reminder, please use common sense while walking in the woods on our Facebook page. Check the rules and regulations at NH Fish and Game and wear orange!

9:10 MaryJean made a motion to adjourn, Earle seconded

Respectfully Submitted,
MaryJean MacGillivray, Secretary

Next Meeting: November 9th