

Meeting Minutes

Mont Vernon Conservation Commission

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Meeting brought to order: 7:06 PM @ MV Town Hall

Present: Larry Yetter, Joanne Draghetti, MaryJean MacGillivray, Shelley Brooks, David Haag, (Seated), Annette Immorlica, Planning Board Representative

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Review November Minutes – Minutes reviewed. Shelly made a motion to accept minutes; Joanne seconded. All present agreed. The minutes were approved.

7:45 Presentation and Motions to Pay Bills: No new Bills to report

7:46 Review any correspondence: Correspondence- Larry received an invitation to the Piscataquog Land Conservancy Winter Lights Open House, December 23, and is extended to any of the MVCC that would like to attend.

8:50 Old Business – Orchard Hill Development- The following members of the MVCC attended the November Planning Board Meeting: Larry Yetter, Joanne Draghetti, MJ MacGillivray. The purpose was to review with them the letter we had sent that itemized the concerns that we had regarding this project from a conservations stand point. They responded to a few of the point that we emphasized but there is still a lot that is in discussion phase. The developer and engineer also attended this meeting. Larry wanted to emphasize a couple of the CC requests. The specific drainage calculations that the CC recommended, assuming that there would be 50% timber harvest. The PB and engineer did not quite understand this request. We asked them to explain what their plans were. They said their plans were quite conservative and that they were going to be looking at each individual property individually and addressing the drainage issues individually and did the drainage calculations based on that approach.

The engineer felt that their calculations would be more accurate with their approach. Joanne voiced our counter to their approach is that they plan to sell those lots to individuals that may be doing their own building, and without having the drainage requirements in place prior to sale of a lot, there wouldn't be any pre-requirements/guidelines already in place to structure how driveways, drainage, etc. would be handled. It was apparent that the PB didn't seem to understand what a conservation easement would do and how it could direct the entire project going forward. Joanne stated that a conservation easement would give us control over what future homeowners could do on their property. There will be further discussion regarding this project at the January 10th PB meeting and the CC will try to attend. Annette did mention that there will be an additional subdivision going before the PB, Jenison Road. There have been no zoning changes since 2007 that would need to be reviewed for this open space sub-division. PB is not sure if any of their permits are still in effect and have done the wetlands crossings.

Warrant Article for Carleton Pond Restoration Project: Larry and Jay attended the Budget Committee meeting. The BC suggested that the CC submit a Warrant Article for \$15K, not the \$25K. The problem being is that this project needs to move forward before permits expire and cost of project goes up even higher. Larry and Jay also asked the Budget Committee if some of the revenue from the Carleton Timber Tax could be allocated to the Carleton Pond Restoration Project. This suggestion was not encouraged.

After discussing the Budget Committees recommendations, Jay made a suggestion that we

1. Make the Warrant Article for the Carleton Pond Restoration request for \$25K
2. Have an additional Warrant Article for \$50K timber tax revenue to be applied to this project.

Warrant Article #1. Jay made a motion to Request the Town allocate the timber tax from Carleton Properties in MV to be put in the capital reserve fund to read as follows: "To see if the Town will allocate the timber tax received in 2017 from the Joe Carleton Properties up to a maximum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (50,000) to be added to the Capital Reserve fund to Reconstruct Carleton Pond and Surrounding Park previously established". MJ seconded, all approved. At this point in time, we still have the option to adjust the dollar amount before the final warrant is submitted. We will be able to discuss this at our January Meeting if there are any updates.

Warrant Article #2. Jay made a motion to submit a Warrant Article for \$25K to be added to the Carleton Reserve Fund, to read as follows: To see if the Town will vote to raise the appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Capital Reserve fund to Reconstruct Carleton Pond and Surrounding Park previously established. Shelley seconded, and all approved.

The CC also discussed that they would reserve the right to withdraw the second article if the first article passes at the Town Meeting.

Larry will submit these Warrant Articles to the selectmen. Larry will also ask Laurie to check with the LGC regarding the proper wording for these articles.

New Business:

Wetlands Workshop

Larry contacted DES and they will come to address our request regarding wetlands. They suggested that March or April would best for them. They requested that we get back to them with some specific ideas on what we would like them to address at this meeting. Larry asked us to bring our ideas and interests to our January meeting to send to the DES.

Face book Update- Shelley has been reviewing our Face book Page and has taken down the post for the Ice Out Contest from last year. The CC is still keeping our options open regarding doing a sledding party and or winter carnival to bring awareness to the Carleton Pond Project. Shelley asked if she and Tom Wahle figured out a way to do the ice out contest would the CC be interested. We will plan to review this topic at the Jan 11th CC meeting.

7:45: MJ made a motion to adjourn, Shelley seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,
MaryJean MacGillivray

Next Meeting January 11th, 2017