

Meeting Minutes

Mont Vernon Conservation Commission

Meeting Date: April 12, 2017

Meeting brought to order: 7:35 PM @ MV Town Hall

Present: Joanne Draghetti, David Hagg, Shelley Brooks, MaryJean MacGillivray

Jay Wilson arrived 8:30 PM, Earle Rich and Garth Witty (seated)

Joanne Draghetti called the meeting to order @ 7:35 PM

Review March Minutes: Earle made a motion to accept minutes as read and David seconded.

All members in agreement (MJ and Garth abstained as not present at March Mtg.)

7:45 Review Correspondence: Correspondence reviewed. Going forward David Haag will monitor incoming correspondence and report to CC at each meeting.

7:50 Old Business:

Ice Out Contest-Shelley has \$135.00 from Ice Out Contest—Joanne asked Shelley to be very specific when she turns the money into Selectmen's office that the revenue should be applied to the Carleton Pond Restoration Project, Joanne updated Shelley that she previously submitted a check for \$100 that was also earmarked for the Carleton Pond Project which brings the total to \$235 revenue received 2017. Gerard Gauthier was the winner of the Ice Out Contest. He selected March 31st as the Ice Out Date. The Trophy will be presented at the Spring Gala. Shelley and Tom Wahle will remove the Ice Out Flag from Carleton Pond.

Wetlands Permitting Process—What are the standard Procedures? Joanne suggested that we all should understand procedures involved, and if agreed should invite NH DES to come to speak to CC. It was agreed that having a speaker from DES would be very helpful. It was agreed that we should pursue DES for a speaker to come address the MVCC as Jen Drociak from DES was unable to come this spring. Joanne will contact DES to see if there is someone else who could come this spring. This will be an information meeting for the CC and the meeting is opened to the public. Garth also suggested that if we have a report of a wetlands violation before DES does the training, we will have to call DES and ask them about proper procedures.

Carleton Pond Project---Selectmen have asked if we will be starting project this year. Jay Wilson felt that we could get started with some of the basics. Bill Davidson said that the engineering plan is still viable and we could modify parts of the proposal. We could take out some of the items we do not need to do right now. We could also look for additional grant monies to help with the completion of the project. It was suggested that the Reeves Foundation may be a possible resource to help with the handicap walkway that is in the plans. Shelley will check on the Steve Reeves Grant Status. The American Disabilities Act recommends towns provide some handicapped accessible trails. Trustees of the Trust Funds may also be able to help with beautification measures surrounding the pond. The CC questioned dry hydrant costs and will need to review with Jay. Joanne asked Garth if he could have a conversation with Jay to clarify the dry hydrant costs. Jay's notes also suggested that we set aside time at our May meeting to fully review plans, and decide on a plan to request costs and/or bids. The CC will also need to meet with contractors, possibly in June or July with a project start

scheduled for October/November.

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Souhegan Fair in Wilton, April 22nd – Earth Day. It does not appear that the Mont Vernon CC will be able to join in the Wilton Earth Day Fair due to member unavailability.

Purgatory Road Development/Orchard Hill : The Planning Board's Requirements are being questioned by the developer, and he is asking for a review and waiver of the asphalt requirements.. The wetlands are also being reviewed. David Haag was present at the Planning Board Meeting, and emphasized to the PB that there were wetland issues that need be addressed. Joanne asked David Haag if he could follow up with DES to get more specific information relative to this development's wetlands issues and permit application. David will also follow up with planning board members and/or Chip Spaulding to review the plan after he contacts DES for additional information.

Spring Gala: Bonnie asked the CC if we would like to have a CC Float in the Spring Gala Parade. We will get back to Bonnie that we are not be able to participate this year with a float. Earle will get back to Bonnie in regards to the float.

View Lot Management - The CC has meet with Hillsborough County land management experts regarding this property. At this point in time, the CC is dealing with invasive swallow wart. The CC is currently working to control and eradicate this problem. We need to get this problem solved as the CC long range plan is to introduce pollinator plants that would in turn attract birds and pollinator insects. The expert advice that we received is that burning is not the best land management for this particular property. Garth moved not to do a burn this year; Earle seconded, motion passed. The CC will evaluate again in 2018.

Gates: Camera Purchase will be used to monitor activity on conservation land. Earle volunteered to get a another camera the same as the last one. Motion to approve cost of camera and accessories not to exceed \$200. Motion to approve purchase, all in favor: Approved.

Possible illegal logging on town owned land- This issue is being investigated. Need to have discussion with Selectmen as follows: 1. Update on logging and possible penalties, 2. Do all town lands need a proper survey, 3. Marking of all town lands, 4. Cost to budget, and a plan to do in one to three year time frame depending on cost.

NH Ranger went out with overlay that he had. It appears that approximately 3 acres have been cut on town land, however, he is not 100% sure of what lands were cut and if proper accounting of stumpage was done. This issues is still being looked into. Jay will make copies of the lots in that area to confirm

location of the cutting. Our Chief of Police Kevin Furlough is aware of this issue. of Town Property

Town Owned Lands- Shelley is working to verify town owned lands by verifying deeds. Deeds do not have Lot Numbers which makes it very difficult to verify exact location. Shelley will look into getting a new NRPC Map for the CC. Jay thinks that as members of NRPC, the CC is eligible to get an updated map.

Election of CC Officers - David nominated Joanne to be Chair, Jay seconded, all in favor: Joanne nominated Jay to be Vice-Chair, Earle seconded, all in favor: MaryJean agreed to be recording Secretary, Jay seconded, all in favor. We currently have three alternate members on the CC, and will explore getting new full time members as the alternates are not be able to be full time members.. Annette Immorlicia serves on the Planning Board and is there representative to the CC. Jay suggested that we should advertise on the Town's Web Page that we are looking for additional full time conservation members. Shelley will put our member recruitment on the MV Face Book page to see if there is any interest. Joanne will send selectmen our list of officers.

9:30 Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted, MaryJean MacGillivary, Secretary

