

Meeting Minutes

Mont Vernon Conservation Commission

Meeting Date: August 8, 2018

Meeting brought to order: 7:30 PM @ MV Town Hall

Present: Jay Wilson, MaryJean MacGillivray, Shelley Brooks, Judy Brophy

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Review July 2018 Minutes - Minutes reviewed. Shelley made a motion to accept minutes as corrected. Judy seconded and minutes approved by all present.

7:45 Presentation and Motions to Pay Bills: Shelley presented an invoice for \$22.46 to cover cost of replacing strap and buckle for drill bits used to remove graffiti at the "Bean Pot" on Purgatory Falls. Jay made a motion to *pay Shelley from the MVCC Land View Management Account (461250-1)*. MaryJean seconded and all in favor. Motion Passed. Shelley also replaced a strap on Wah Lum camera that had broken.

7:50 Guests: Rita and Peter Tedder – Salisbury Road Conservation Easements and Harvesting Request: Peter Tedder explained in great detail an overview of the property being considered for harvesting. He noted that the UNH Cooperative Extensions Service Forester estimated that this forest had not been harvested in approximately 40 years and the canopy that has been created does not allow for light to penetrate and thus there is no undergrowth that could encourage wildlife. In addition, many of the trees are dying due to lack of sunlight. In addition they also consulted with Alex Jordan who operates a tree harvesting business. He recommended that only trees eleven inches and over in diameter be harvested. This will allow for more light reaching the young growth. Shelley asked Mr. Tedder if there were any vernal pools on this property. Mr. Tedder said there were not any vernal pools but there was a vernal stream that has already been considered. His logger is planning to bridge this stream so there won't be any disturbance to the stream during the harvest. Mr. Tedder further stated that the logger has equipment that will be able to grab and control each tree so that the fall will be directed away from other trees. Shelley asked if any of his neighbors are considering taking down some of their large trees. Mr. Tedder said that they are planning to hold a meeting with their neighbors to give them information regarding this cutting. Jay made a motion that the MVCC agrees with the proposed cut and has no issues with it. MaryJean seconded and all agree. Jay told Mr. Tedder that he will send an email to the PB Secretary tonight regarding our decision and that Mr. Tedder will have to meet with them on the 14th. Jay further stated that Mr. Tedder probably should call Joan at Town Office tomorrow as there may be a caveat regarding notifying abutters and that could possibly change the date for Mr. Tedder to attend.

Guest: Adrienne Penkacik has just moved to Mont Vernon from California and is interested in possibly working with the MVCC. She and her husband are both originally from NH. Amherst and Nashua. Jay welcomed her to MV and suggested that she would be welcome to sit in on this meeting and come again next month to meet some of the other members. He also explained the option of joining the CC as an alternate as opposed to regular member if she just felt that she would like to get more of an idea what is involved before committing as a full-fledged member. Adrienne stayed for the entire meeting and seemed to be interested in returning.

Carleton Pond Landscaping Committee Update: MaryJean and Judy Brophy met with Ryan Foster on Monday, August 6th at Carleton Pond. MaryJean explained that we first walked around the pond to see how some of our previous plantings had been doing, and happy to see four of the five Ninebark that we planted earlier have survived. As we continued around the right side of the pond Ryan pointed out that we have a significant amount of wild (volunteer) blueberry plants growing. Ryan felt that since we were already considering adding blueberry plants to the pond, this section might be the most conducive for planting our blueberry plants. We also discovered that at the back right corner of the pond there is some flooding coming from the neighboring swamp due to the heavy rains. Ryan recommended that possibly adding a stone “trough” from the area where the flooding is coming from might slow down the drainage into the pond. (Jay said that he was aware of this issue, and is planning to address this and any other issue when the ground is frozen and they can get in with some equipment to fix.) As we made our way around the pond Ryan pointed out some “good” volunteer plants. For example, elderberry plants that we will also be planting as well. We discussed several varieties of plants that would do well in this environment and also add some color. Mountain laurel could be a possibility. We also discussed putting a flowering shrub at the entrance. Ryan is going to compile a list of potential plants and check with his supplier to see what plants would be available for the fall planting. We want to do the Fall planting at the end of September early October. Ryan will get back to us with some options and prices for the Fall Planting. Jay expressed concern regarding the right side entrance where the hydrant is. There is a “jumble” of growth along the borderline and it should be thinned out. He asked if Ryan could take a look and recommend what could stay and what could go.

FB Consultants- Wetlands protection Update: Joanne has contacted FB Consultants with our concerns and recommendations for their proceeding with their report to us. Joanne has listed 7 Key Considerations that we would like them to focus on. They have agreed and will get back to us.

Timber Harvest - Carleton Pond is a very small portion of the timber harvest that is planned for Cemetery and Library Property. They will need to put in place a silt fence and protecting any water flow that comes down through so they won't affect the area below them or affect Carleton Pond.

Jay thanked Adrienne Penkacik for attending our meeting and encouraged her to come to our September Meeting to get another opportunity to see what is involved in being on the CC.

Jay made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Judy seconded.

Next Meeting September 12, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

MaryJean MacGillivray, Secretary