



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Type:..... **Regular Meeting**
Date:..... **January 25, 2022**
Time:..... **6:30 p.m.**
Place:..... **Community Room**
Address:..... **43 Bombardier Road, Milton**
Contact:..... **(802) 893-1186**
Website:..... **www.miltonvt.gov**

MEETING MINUTES

Dan Gaherty, Chair

Laurie DiCesare, Clerk

Bonnie Pease, Member

William Pikul, Member

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Dan Gaherty at 6:35 p.m.

2. Attendance:

Members Present: Dan Gaherty, Laurie DiCesare, William Pikul, and Bonnie Pease.

Members absent: None.

Staff Present: Kris Dulmer (Tree Warden/MCC Coordinator).

Public Present: None

3. Agenda Review:

No agenda additions.

4. Business:

a. Milton Town Forest (MTF) Management Plan:

Referring to the Oct. 21 MTF Forest Stand Map in Ethan Tapper's report, Dan and Bonnie agreed that, due to extreme wetness and \$50,000-worth of trail improvements with culverts added under the walking surface, logging truck access would not be feasible through parcel 8. Bonnie said she would not allow access through her property, either. According to the Management Plan's Summary Chart, access to parcels 5 and 6 were estimated at \$10,000.

We all agreed that some labor-intensive work could be done by organizing volunteer work days. For many years, Bonnie has been removing invasive plants from the perimeter of Milton Pond. After reviewing the Management Plan, Dan agreed to e-mail some of our questions and concerns to Ethan and will invite him to attend our next MCC meeting.

b. Enhancement of Recreation Stewardship and Access (ERSA) Trail Grant:

Dan said that Milton Planning Director Cymone Haiju advised him that the grant selection process has been postponed until early February.

c. Recreation Commission / MCC Meeting:

MCC members agreed that we will schedule a combined meeting with the Recreation Commission at their March 9, 2022 meeting at 6 p.m.

d. Winter Festival (Feb. 11 – 13, 2022):

Recreation Director Jenna Tucker asked Dan to announce this year's Winter Festival dates: Feb. 11 to 13, 2022. Milton tree Warden Kris Dulmer offered to lead a tree walk on Saturday, Feb. 12. He will coordinate with Jenna on the timing.

Bonnie would like to create interpretive trail walks at Eagle Mountain and the MTF with marked sites of interest similar to last Winter's Milton Town Forest walk.

e. MCC Recruitment:

William has been collecting photos of previous MCC events and is working with a videographer. He is also working on producing advertising posters with the theme "We want to see you." We have not as yet received any feedback from any prospective MCC members.

f. Lamoille Riverwalk Management Plan:

Dan will contact UVM Professor Walter Poleman about potential Field Naturalist projects.

g. Nature Notes:

Through her editing work for the VT Entomological Society (VES) Newsletter (VermontInsects.org), Laurie has received some new one- and two-page field guides to Vermont Bumble Bees and Milkweed Specialists that are available to the public through the VT Center for Ecostudies (see references below). She is currently working on the Winter Newsletter which will include an article on Vermont's Wool-carder Bees. Laurie has been looking through her old bee photos recently and posting them on iNaturalist.org so they can be added to the VCE VT Bee Survey. She urges other members (and eco-interested members of the public) to photograph and post their bee photos from past years and, starting in March, those found on spring wildflowers. With the help of iNaturalist, Laurie has documented over 20 species of bees in her yard. (She also maintains insect lists for our local parks.)

To download your Milkweed Specialist Insects Guide, see:

<https://vtecostudies.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Milkweed-Specialist-Insects-Guide.pdf>

Bumble Bee Guides:

Here is the link to the page that houses both of the Bumble Bee Guides:

<https://val.vtecostudies.org/projects/vtbees/bombus/>

Here is the direct link to the illustrated one-pager:

<https://val.vtecostudies.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/BombusIllustrationsFinal-1-2.pdf>

And here is the direct link to the two-page guide:

<http://val.vtecostudies.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/BombusIDGuideFinal-1.pdf>

William recently saw a light-colored owl flying over Westford Road in mid-day. Kris noticed a Bald Eagle around the waterfall near the dam.

5. Review of Minutes:

Bonnie MOVED that we approve the amended Minutes of Dec. 28, 2021. Laurie SECONDED. All APPROVED. MOTION PASSED.

6. Adjournment:

Bonnie MOVED that we adjourn. William SECONDED. All APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie DiCesare, Clerk

APPROVED MINUTES:

Dan Gaherty Date: 2-22-22
Dan Gaherty, Chair

Filed with the Milton Town Clerk's Office on this 23rd day of February, 2022.

ATTEST: *Krist Beas*, Milton Town Clerk

