



# CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Type:.....**Regular Meeting**  
Date:.....**April 26, 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 6:40 p.m.

### 2. Attendance:

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

Members absent: None.

Staff Present: Jenna Tucker Eugair (Milton Recreation Director), Kris Dulmer (Tree Warden/MCC Coordinator).

Public Present: None.

### 3. Agenda Review:

Dan added Eagle Mountain Update; Milton Town Forest (MTF) Wetlands Permit; Prospective New Member.

### 4. Business:

**a. Eagle Mountain Update:** Dan said that a new house is being constructed off Henry Road near the Eagle Mountain parking lot. Lake Champlain Land Trust told Dan that some equipment is on Town land. Dan spoke with the people involved and was assured that the equipment will be moved off Town land.

**b. Milton Town Forest Wetlands Permit:** Our MTF wetlands permit is about to expire in November 2022. Tomorrow Dan and Town Planner Cymone Haiju will have a conference call with Brock Fryer, Vermont regional wetlands person, about possibly extending our wetlands permit.

**c. Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant Application:** Dan said that this year's application deadline has been extended to May 26, with successful awards announced in June. Cymone will be the lead person on our application. Bonnie said there is a fee of \$300 to re-apply but we may suggest that Covid challenges prevented us from completing the project earlier. Dan contacted Josh Ryan of Timber and Stone to let him know the project is still viable. Josh said he is already booked for this season.

**d. Prospective New Member:** Dan said that prospective new member, Pamela Sandoval, is planning to move to Milton by the end of April. We hope to hear from her once she has resettled.

**e. Milton Town Forest Management Plan:** Dan said that our MCC walk with County Forester Ethan Tapper was very successful. Laurie walked to the VYCC bridge while Bonnie, Dan and William continued on with Ethan on muddy trails to the 4 Corners, ridgeline and some off-trail bushwhacking. Ethan has offered to lead a public walk around the MTF in June.

Dan MOVED that we send the revised Milton Town Forest Management Plan of March 9, 2022 to the Town Manager for review and possible approval by the Select Board. Laurie SECONDED. All APPROVED. MOTION PASSED.

### f. Lake Arrowhead Workshop (April 6, 2022 via Zoom):

Laurie and Dan attended the Lake Arrowhead Zoom workshop presented by Katherine Dynarski. (A recap of our conversation is in her e-mail to us on April 7, 2022.) The major challenge for the lake is that it is both eutrophic (nutrient-rich) and very shallow. The group would not be dealing with the phosphorus input to the lake but was looking for volunteers to help with monitoring water and invasive plants. A Zebra Mussel survey found no larvae as the calcium levels in the lake are too low. (Calcium is needed for bivalve shell formation.) There was a suggestion of adding a greeting station to the boat launch area on Rt. 104 but Laurie said that area is quickly over-filled and hard to find a parking spot on warm summer days. Dan said we only have four members now so volunteering would be difficult. Chris Bouchard of the Georgia Conservation Commission said they now have 8 members and may be able to volunteer. A helpful 32-page key to VT Aquatic Plant Species, with photos and basic plant sketches, was included in the recap e-mail. Bonnie mentioned that GMP could put up a poster showing some of the invasive plants at the boat launch. Dan noted that there was no GMP representative at the meeting.

**g. Green-Up Day (May 7, 2022) Planning:** Jenna said that an easel with the map and Green-Up bags will be available in the Town Office lobby. Laurie will write a paragraph about Green-Up Day for the Islander. Pick up of green bags will be on Monday May 9. Jenna booked the pavilion at Bombardier Park and will order the coffee and donuts on her town credit card. William will pick up the coffee and donut order Saturday morning. Dan will put out the wire directional signs. We have a \$450 allowance for Green-Up. Posters will go to Hannaford's, the High School and elementary School. Jenna will copy more color posters. Laurie and Bonnie will staff the sign-up table with Green-up bags and trail brochures at the Bombardier East pavilion from 8 until noon.

**h. Trail Maintenance:** William found many large trees had fallen over the **Lamoille Riverwalk** trail, mostly near trail marker 4. Kris will help William cut up the wood and clear the trail. Jenna mentioned that a homeless encampment has been noted in the park.

**i. Projects for 2022:** Jenna said the two park benches, one for Eagle Mountain and one for the Pond View Loop at the MTF, have arrived. William will buy the materials for this summer's projects (installing benches, repainting blazes, puncheon bridges...)

## 5. Nature Notes:

Laurie saw the first garter snake of the season on East Road. Kris says this was a good sugaring season as he made 95 gallons of syrup. Dan saw a deer that stopped in the road in front of his car on the way home from visiting his father.

## 7. Approval of Minutes:

Laurie MOVED that we accept the amended MCC minutes of March 22, 2022. Bonnie SECONDED. All APPROVED. MOTION PASSED.

## 8. Adjournment:

Bonnie MOVED that we adjourn. William SECONDED. All APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie DiCesare, MCC Clerk

APPROVED MINUTES:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gaherty, Chair

Filed with the Milton Town Clerk's Office on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_, Milton Town Clerk

DRAFT