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**Town of Milton
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES**

9 **Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.**

10 Milton Municipal Building Community Room
11 43 Bombardier Road, Milton, VT 05468

12 **CC Members Present:** Judith Kinner, Chair; Bonnie Pease; Laurie DiCesare; Jay Maurice; and
13 Dan Gaherty

14 **CC Members Absent:** None

15 **Staff Present:** Jacob Hemmerick, Town Planner

16 **Others:** None

17
18 **I. Call to Order, Attendance, Agenda Review**

19 Kinner called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

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21 **II. Public Input**

22 None

23
24 **III. Staff Report, Administrative Follow-up, Commission Roundtable.**

25 Staff communicated the following updates:

- 26 • The CC webpage has been updated with a Commission photo.
- 27 • The packet included a Commissioner contact list, which was found to be accurate.
- 28 • The Vermont Electric Co-op confirmed that they will not use herbicide while conducting
29 line clearing in the Town Forest.
- 30 • The winter movie screening of *Play Again* cannot be played according to the Library's
31 license, as was mistakenly communicated. Only certain studios are covered, and
32 documentary studios generally aren't covered by this license. Pease questioned if the
33 School might have a license that would cover documentary films. Kinner questioned if
34 *Play Again's* studio might give the CC a break for a viewing.
- 35 • Hemmerick spoke with the organizer from the Vermont River Conservancy about an
36 organizational meeting for a Paddler's Trail on the Lamoille, which Milton was unable to
37 attend. Noah Pollack explained that they're in the early stages and recently completed
38 an assessment of potential sites for the access and primitive camping, and that they
39 intend to hold another meeting. Hemmerick said that Milton's Community Room could be
40 used for another organizational meeting.
- 41 • A Memo on development review advisory participation was included in the CC's packet.
42 Hemmerick corrected an error in the Memo by stating that the original resolution creating
43 the CC does appear to grant authority to advise the DRB, but he advised that the CC
44 should first become familiar with the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Ordinances
45 prior to engaging authority or beginning a new practice.
- 46 • Hemmerick mentioned the online mapping resources highlighted in the Memo. Gaherty
47 encouraged that the Commissioners review the data layers. The maps include ANR's
48 Natural Resource Atlas, VT Biofinder, Milton's Mapviewer, and VGIC maps.
- 49 • The Memo also highlighted revisions to the Capital Improvement Plan's Town Forest
50 Improvements, which will go before the Board in 2015.

51 **A. Eagle Mountain Natural Area Map and Brochure**

52 The Commission reviewed the Brochure, requesting several changes to the content.

53 Hemmerick stated he would make the edits and bring it back for a final approval at a later

51 meeting. The Commission UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED to approve the map. Both map and
52 brochure will be combined to complete the project for public distribution and kiosk posting.
53

54 **B. Bove Connector Trail Design Review and RTP Grant Application**

55 The Commission reviewed cost estimates and two alternative designs for the Bove Connector
56 Trail provided by Timber & Stone LLC and funded in part by the CC's Budget and in part by the
57 Association of Conservation Commissions Grant. Questions were asked and answered.
58

59 The Commissioners UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED to Option 2 as their preferred alternative.
60 Hemmerick explained that the next step is to prepare the Vermont Recreation Trail Program
61 Grant for Selectboard approval prior to the February 1 deadline. The Commission assigned
62 Bonnie Pease and Dan Gaherty to be readers of the grant, which Ann Janda, Management
63 Fellow, and Hemmerick will prepare.
64

65 **C. Town Forest Management Plan**

66 The Commission UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED to TABLE Management Plan discussion to a
67 later meeting.
68

69 **D. Meeting Schedule & Strategic Planning**

70 Staff presented a list of initiatives that have been mentioned for possible Conservation
71 Commission action for prioritization and assignment on the meeting calendar. The Commission
72 began to discuss some goals, but with the meeting running long, the Commission
73 UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED to TABLE discussion of strategic priorities and goals to the next
74 meeting.
75

76 **V. Approval of Minutes.**

77 Pease MOVED, and Maurice SECONDED to approve the Minutes of November 25, 2014 as
78 presented. Unanimously APPROVED.
79

80 **VI. Adjourn.**

81 MOTION by Pease to adjourn at 9:12, second by Gaherty. Unanimously APPROVED.
82

83 **Submitted by**

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Judith Kinner, Chair

Date 2/19/15

/jmh