

1 **TOWN OF MILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**
2 **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

3 **Tuesday, March 24, 2015**

4 Municipal Building Community Room
5 43 Bombardier Road • Milton, VT 05468
6 802.893.1186 • www.miltonvt.org

7
8 **CC Members Present:** Judith Kinner, Chair; Bonnie Pease; Laurie DiCesare, Dan Gaherty,
9 and Jay Maurice.

10 **CC Members Absent:** None.

11 **Staff Present:** Jacob Hemmerick, Town Planner.

12 **Others:** None.

13
14 **I. Call to Order, Attendance, Agenda Review**

15 Kinner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

16
17 **II. Public Input**

18 None.

19
20 **III. Business**

21
22 **A. Vermont Land Trust Easement on Cadreact Road**

23 The Commission discussed the proposed easement. Hemmerick explained that the Vermont
24 Housing Conservation Board (VHCB) rules ask that the Conservation and Planning
25 Commissions weigh in on the proposal. Gaherty inquired if public access would be part of the
26 easement, since public funding is involved; Hemmerick said he would look into this.
27 Nevertheless, the Commission was supportive of the conservation measure. Maurice **MOVED**
28 to support the proposed easement as called for by VHCB funding requirements, **SECOND** by
29 Pease. Unanimously **PASSED**.

30
31 **B. Conservation Commission Budget Planning**

32 The Commission discussed a variety of purchases to realize projects and concluded that
33 funding priorities for the remaining funds in FY15 (\$234) are:

- 34 • 8, 4'x4', 4'or5' long posts (cedar vs. pressure treated), rebar, concrete and numbers to
- 35 restore Lamoille Riverwalk's interpretive stations.
- 36 • Way-finding Signage for Eagle Mountain.
- 37 • Paint for Eagle Mountain Trail Blazes.
- 38 • Eagle Mountain Map/Brochure Printing.

39 The Commission tentatively identified the following items for FY16 Funding:

- 40 • Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions Membership
- 41 • Town Forest Trail Map/Brochure Printing
- 42 • Town Forest Kiosk Content
- 43 • Town Forest Trail Signs
- 44 • Installation of benches/interpretive signage along new trail (if funded by RTP).
- 45 • Bridge/Kiosk Infrastructure Maintenance at Lamoille Riverwalk

46
47 **C. Information Technology**

48 Maurice and DiCesare signed the Information Technology Acceptance Form, which the other
49 Commissioners had signed previously. Maurice introduced the Commission's Google Drive and

50 Town-owned Gmail accounts for each Commissioner. These accounts would be passed on
51 from one member to the next over time, and provide online access to all of the Commission's
52 documents in the Drive, which would otherwise not be electronically or readily available. It will
53 provide a more organized and accessible Library for the CC to help meet their charge. Maurice
54 explained how to forward all e-mails from the miltonvt.org e-mail address to the Gmail address,
55 in order to integrate the new e-mails with the Town's existing system. He stated that he would
56 be happy to help walk anyone through the process before next meeting, if there are problems or
57 concerns.

58

59 **D. Town Forest Trail Map**

60 Staff presented a draft map depicting existing trails. Pease explained some coloration and
61 configuration updates to the trails near the Carriage Barn, and it was concluded that it would be
62 best to see the layout depicted on a map next meeting with corresponding colors (for inclusion
63 in the final map). The Commission concluded:

- 64 • That the map should correspond to the standards established with the Eagle Mountain
65 Map as much as possible;
- 66 • That solid lines for the trails are clearer than dotted lines;
- 67 • That Skid Road Trail should be lavender in color;
- 68 • That Pond View Loop Trail should be green in color;
- 69 • That the short links should be red in color;
- 70 • That the dry bypass should remain orange in color;
- 71 • That all trail markings should be the same rectangular shape;

72 Hemmerick said he would make revisions and prepare another draft for the next meeting. He
73 also said he would send out the text previously prepared by Kinner, Pease, and DiCesare for
74 their edits. The intent is to have a legal size map, in order to provide a four-fold brochure with
75 more space for text.

76

77 **IV. Staff Report & Commission Roundtable**

78

79 ***Development Review Update***

80 DiCesare expressed concern about the proposed J&M Sand Pit off McMullen Road and its
81 impact on Mallets Creek waterway, wetlands, and wood turtle habitat. Hemmerick explained
82 that the hearing was closed (no further testimony or evidence may be presented), Interested
83 Person participation requirements, how the public is notified, and the effectiveness of taking
84 natural resource and habitat considerations into account legislatively. He said a decision will be
85 available in April, and that he would send DiCesare a copy.

86

87 Hemmerick presented an overview of a proposed subdivision to which the Town (Forest) is an
88 adjoining property owner. Pease noted mapped natural resource considerations in the
89 Comprehensive Plan. The Commission acknowledged the importance of keeping well-
90 documented, high-quality natural resource inventory/maps in the Comprehensive Plan and
91 ensuring that the Zoning & Subdivision Regulations reference these maps to protect identified
92 resources.

93

94 Hemmerick also pointed out some citizen planner development opportunities highlighted in a
95 Planning Staff Update dated 3/20/15. He asked that the Commission notify him if anyone is
96 interested in attending.

97

98

99

100 **VT Town Forest Centennial Celebration**
101 Not covered; handout was included in meeting materials.
102
103 **Bombardier Park Spruce Up Day April 11 from 9 a.m. to noon.**
104 Not covered.
105
106 **Winooski Natural Resource Conservation District Presentation on 6/23**
107 Hemmerick stated that WNRCD will come to the CC meeting on 6/23 to talk about their
108 stormwater outreach programs. DiCesare and Pease noted their involvement in their annual
109 tree sale.
110
111 **Lake Champlain Land Trust & Eagle Mountain Kiosk**
112 No response to two emails to move the kiosk project forward. Hemmerick said he would call.
113
114 **Green Up Day**
115 Green Up Day planning is moving along. DiCesare requested that healthier food options be
116 available, and that the amount of plastic be kept to a minimum. DiCesare volunteered to
117 contact Hannaford for condiment donations in pump bottles.
118
119 **Recreational Trails Program Status**
120 Hemmerick said that he spoke with the grant administrator who reviewed the application and
121 said it was the best prepared of the 24 applications seeking a purse of \$250,000.
122
123 **VT Urban and Community Forestry**
124 Not covered; handout included.
125
126 **Georgia Conservation Commission Contact**
127 DiCesare said she met a Georgia Conservation Commission, and gave an update on some of
128 their activities. The Commission can keep them in mind for future collaboration.
129
130 **April 28th Agenda Items**
131 The Commission briefly discussed the Agenda for the 28th, which is the biannual joint meeting
132 with the Recreation Commission. It will include a presentation by Fellowship of the Wheel to
133 talk about their work with other communities in Chittenden County to expand mountain biking
134 opportunities.
135
136 **V. Approval of Minutes**
137 **MOTION** by Gaherty to approve Minutes of February 9, 2015 as presented. **SECOND** by
138 Pease. **ABSTENTION** by Maurice and DiCesare. **PASSED.**
139
140 **MOTION** by Pease to approve Minutes of February 24, 2015 as presented. **SECOND** by
141 Gaherty. **ABSTENTION** by Maurice. **PASSED.**
142
143 Kinner noted that she had a conflict with the canoe scheduled for June 20th and the
144 Commission opted for June 27th instead.
145
146 **VIII. Adjourn.**
147 **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:53 by Maurice, **SECOND** by DiCesare.
148 Unanimously **APPROVED.**
149

150 Submitted by

151

152

153

154

155

Judith Kinner
Judith Kinner, Chair

Date 4/28/15
/jmh

156 **Follow-up Items:**

- 157 • Hemmerick will investigate public access and the VHCB/VLT/LCLT conservation
158 easement.
- 159 • Gaherty will cost out Lamoille Riverwalk interpretive post materials for next meeting.
- 160 • Hemmerick will look into approved vendors and storage of post materials for Dan.
- 161 • Hemmerick will contact LCLT to find out who did the recent EM trail signage, and cost
162 out the signs.
- 163 • Pease will bring in color swatches and prices for all colors depicted on the EM map for
164 June trail marking.
- 165 • Pease will render a draft trail map of the trails near the Carriage Barn that show the
166 colors and corresponding names for consideration at the next meeting, and inclusion in
167 the final map.
- 168 • The Commission will assign someone to price EM Brochure/Map printing on 4/28.
- 169 • Hemmerick will update the CC events page and add priorities to website.
- 170 • Hemmerick will follow-up with LCLT to find out the status of the EM kiosk design
171 revisions.
- 172 • DiCesare will be asking for condiment donations from Hannaford for Green Up Day.
- 173 • Hemmerick will confirm with PW to ensure that they can pick up Green Up Bags from
174 Cold Springs Road, and inquire about wood chips for dump site cover up (carryover
175 item).
- 176 • Maurice will be available, upon request, prior to the meeting on 4/28 to assist in setting
177 up mail forwarding.
- 178 • Maurice will go over Step 2 of Google Drive at the next meeting.
- 179 • Maurice will add newspaper articles the CC's work into Drive.
- 180 • Hemmerick will prepare a handout of priorities and schedule activities for 2015 in
181 preparation for the joint meeting with the Recreation Commission.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MARCH 24, 2015

DAN GARTHERY



BONNIE PEASE



JUDITH KINNER



JAY MAURICE



LAURIE DICESARE



JACOB HEMMERIK
STAFF

