



# TOWN OF MILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Type:.....**Regular Meeting**  
Date:.....**Tuesday, August 25, 2015**  
Time:.....**6:30 p.m.**  
Place:.....**Municipal Building Community Room**  
Address:.....**43 Bombardier Road, Milton, Vermont 05468-3205**  
Contact:.....**802.893.1186 ♦**  
Website:.....**miltonvt.org**

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1   **1. CALL TO ORDER**

2   The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

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4   **2. ATTENDANCE**

5   **Members Present:** Judith Kinner, Chair; Bonnie Pease, Laurie DiCesare, and Jay Maurice

6   **Members Absent:** Dan Gaherty

7   **Staff Present:** Jeff Castle, Town Planner

8   **Public Present:** None

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10   **3. AGENDA REVIEW**

11   **Additions:** DiCesare requested to add a viewing of a few minutes of a DVD of a recent Lake  
12   Arrowhead tour at the end of the meeting, time permitting.

13   **Deletions:** None

14

15   **4. PUBLIC FORUM**

16   None

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18   **5. OLD BUSINESS**

19

20   **5(A) Election of Officers**

21   The commission discussed the election on new officers. **MOTION** by DiCesare, **SECOND** by Pease  
22   to re-elect Judith Kinner as Chair. Unanimously **APPROVED**. **MOTION** by Pease, **SECOND** by  
23   Maurice to elect Dan Gaherty as Vice-Chair. Unanimously **APPROVED**. **MOTION** by Pease,  
24   **SECOND** by DiCesare to elect Jay Maurice as Clerk. Unanimously **APPROVED**.

25

26   **5(B) Town Forest Map and Brochure Review**

27   The commission reviewed the content of a Town Forest trail map and brochure. They provided  
28   edits to be made prior to finalization. Castle acknowledged that he would work with Hemmerick,  
29   the author of the most recent edition, to implement changes as soon as possible.

30   Requested Map Changes:

- 31   • Elevation labels added to the contours to make highs and lows clear to the reader.
- 32   • Include a legend.
- 33   • Number the Bridges in order to make the trail narrative references correspond to the map.
- 34   • Lighten the purple color of "Skid Road" trail line.
- 35   • "Pondview Loop" label should be "Pond View Loop"
- 36   • The viewpoint on the Ridgeline East trail should be labeled "Viewpoint"

- 1 • The "Power Line Easement" label should be flipped so that it appears right-side-up, and  
2 moved down as to not intersect the dashed line marking the land trust conservation  
3 easement.
- 4 • Westford Road Parking Lot should be relabeled the "Milton Town Forest Parking Lot"
- 5 • Trail name abbreviations shall be added next to list of trail names.
- 6 • The change of the "Bove Connector" trail name to the "Access Trail" by Hemmerick was  
7 brought up as a concern by Pease. Castle acknowledged that the reason for the change was  
8 unknown without Hemmerick's presence. Discussion by the committee expressed a desire  
9 to retain history in the trail name. If the change were kept, the possibility of using the name  
10 "Bove" elsewhere was suggested. Until clarification and explanation from Hemmerick all  
11 **CONSENTED** to retaining the name "Bove Connector."

12  
13 Brochure edits were discussed and agreed to by all members. Edits were made to correct  
14 grammar, errors and improve clarity and readability. Changes were tracked by Castle and  
15 DiCesare. Castle agreed that staff will make agreed upon changes.

16  
17 A desire was expressed by Pease to have a version of the map and brochure ready to distribute  
18 at the Milton Activities Fair on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Castle agreed that if there are no further changes  
19 that need to be discussed by the committee, Staff would try and have a version ready for the  
20 Fair. This is pending a final explanation of the Bove Connector name change by Hemmerick.

## 21 22 **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### 23 24 **6(A). FY2016 Calendar Year 2016 Meeting Schedule**

25 The committee reviewed the proposed calendar for FY2106 and Calendar Year 2016. Kinner  
26 acknowledged a conflict with scheduled Tuesday, September 22 meeting date and expressed a  
27 desire to reschedule in order to attend. All members **CONSENTED** to reschedule the next  
28 Commission meeting to **Monday, September 21**. Meeting location TBD by Staff due to conflict with  
29 another meeting. The Commission **UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED** to table remaining calendar  
30 discussion until next meeting.

### 31 32 **6(B). Conservation Commission Bylaws**

33 The Commission was concerned that they did not have complete copies of the Bylaws. Castle  
34 agreed to email members complete copies of the bylaws for review. The commission  
35 **UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED** to table the item until next meeting.

### 36 37 **6(C). Eagle Scout Project Identification**

38 The Commission discussed possible Eagle Scout project options to be shared with Eagle Scout at the  
39 next meeting. Castle suggested improvement of the kiosk at the Cold Spring Road access to Eagle  
40 Mountain. The Commission feels that an improvement to the River Walk Trail would be more  
41 valuable to the Commission and a more appropriate project for an Eagle Scout. A couple options  
42 were identified:

- 43 • Reconstruction of the first log bridge near the Richie Ave end of the trail. The present  
44 condition is poor and potentially limits access to the trail.

- Puncheon construction and maintenance near the Richie Ave end of the trail or near the water treatment facility.

The bridge construction was suggested as a priority, but the Commission is open to discussion with the Eagle Scout to determine an appropriate project. While the Commission expressed a desire to give the Scout the freedom to problem solve on his own, the need for communication throughout the process will be paramount to create an improvement that will meet the access needs of the community.

#### **6(D). Conservation Commission Archives**

The Commission expressed a desire to continue the use of a Google platform for archival material and working documents. Technical problems are still a hindrance for some Commission members. Maurice and Castle expressed a willingness to assist Commission members that need technical assistance.

Jay Maurice exited the meeting at 8:30

### **7. STAFF UPDATES**

#### **7(A). Mini Recreational Trails Grant Program Status & Volunteer**

Castle shared that we are waiting on a Grant Agreement from the State, and it is in their business office for review. The Commission can expect it to arrive by Labor day.

#### **7(B). Major Recreational Trails Program Grant Status & Impact on RFP/RFQ**

Castle updated the Commission that the wetland permitting will not be waived. It is recommended that the project scope not be changed until the exact wetland permitting cost is known. Castle is investigating the permitting cost and procedure with the State and the Army Corps of Engineers in order to determine the cost. Castle stated that it is unknown at this time if a new wetland delineation will be required for the permitting process, and he will inform the Commission when details are known. The project is also waiting on a Grant agreement from the State.

#### **7(C). Eagle Mountain Kiosk Installation**

Castle shared that the Lake Champlain Land Trust will be installing the informative welcome panel at the Henry Road kiosk on Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. The commission is interested in a duplicate panel at the Cold Spring Road kiosk. Castle said he would investigate cost and the possibility of the town assisting in acquiring a panel and installation.

#### **7(D). Fellowship of the Wheel Mountain Biking Collaboration Update**

Castle stated that there has been no progress on this project. DiCesare expressed concerns about negative impact of existing Fellowship of the Wheel mountain biking trails after a recent visit to Sunny Hollow in Colchester. DiCesare cited erosion caused by trail location and the high density of the trail network as concerns. She suggested that other members of the Commission make a trip to see the state of Sunny Hollow.

1 **7(E). Milton Pond Dam Update**

2 Castle stated that the vegetative maintenance of the dam will not begin until the fall when the  
3 ground is drier. Public works has recently received a quote from Dubois and King for the planning  
4 and design related to dam stabilization for Capital Improvement Planning. DiCesare would like to  
5 be notified prior to the cutting so that Open Gentian can be transplanted from the site. DiCesare  
6 and Pease will organize a few volunteers to help with transplanting. Castle stated that he will look  
7 into acquiring flags to be used in marking the Open Gentian prior to transplant and keep the  
8 Commission updated on the vegetative maintenance schedule.

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10 **7(F). Stream Team Outreach Project**

11 Castle shared that staff has informed the Winooski Natural Resource Conservation District that the  
12 Commission would prefer to collaborate on a Rain Barrel Workshop. They will reach out to the  
13 Town in the new-year to identify a date.

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15 **7(G). Milton Activities Fair**

16 Castle explained that a table has been booked for the Commission at the Activities Fair. Pease  
17 confirmed that she can staff the table.

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19 **7(H). Citizen Planner Development**

20 Castle shared that there are many upcoming training activities that have been highlighted in the  
21 Department update. Kinner expressed interest in attending Municipal Day on September 9<sup>th</sup>, and  
22 Castle said he would work on her registration.

23  
24 **8. MINTUES OF JULY 14, 2015**

25 Pease suggested that there were not enough members that had been present at the July 14, 2015  
26 meeting in attendance to approve the Minutes. The Commission **UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED**  
27 to table the approval of the July 15, 2015 Minutes until the 3 members present on July 15, 2015 were  
28 present for approval.

29  
30 **9. ADJOURNMENT**

31 DiCesare **MOVED** to approve adjourn at 8:59 p.m., **SECOND** by Pease. Unanimously  
32 **APPROVED** (3-0).

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Minutes approved by the Commission this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

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Judith Kinner, Chair  
/jwc

Filed with the Town Clerk this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

DRAFT