



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Type:..... **Regular Meeting** (4th Tuesday of each month)
Date:..... **Tuesday, August 9, 2016**
Time:..... **6:30 p.m.**
Place:..... **Municipal Building Community Room**
Address:..... **43 Bombardier Road Milton, VT 05468**
Contact:..... **(802) 893-1186**
Website:..... **www.miltonvt.org**

MEETING MINUTES

1 **1. CALL TO ORDER**

2 The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

3
4 **2. ATTENDANCE**

5 **Members Present:** Judy Kinner, Chair; Dan Gaherty, Vice-Chair; Laurie DiCesare; Bonnie Pease.

6 **Members Absent:** None

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

8 **Public Present:** Ethan Tapper, Chittenden County Forester

9
10 **3. AGENDA REVIEW**

11 The discussion with Ethan Tapper was moved to the beginning of the agenda.

12
13 **4. PUBLIC FORUM**

14 None

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16 **6. NEW BUSINESS**

17
18 **6(A). Meet Ethan Tapper, Chittenden County Forester**

19
20 Ethan Tapper, the new Chittenden County Forester attended the meeting in order to introduce
21 himself to the Commission and to discuss how he can assist the Town with the management of
22 Milton's natural areas. Introductions were made and Ethan shared his background. Much of
23 Ethan's job is the administration of the current use program forestry management plans. These
24 plans manage forests for the harvesting of timber or sugaring. The Commission shared the history
25 of the Town Forest and some future trail plans. The other natural areas in Milton, including Eagle
26 Mountain natural area, the Lamoille River Walk, and Bombardier Park were introduced. Ethan
27 plans to spend time walking the forests and parks in order to acquaint himself with Milton's public
28 forests.

29
30 A walk was scheduled for October 15th at 10:00 AM in the Town Forest. Ethan will lead the walk
31 for interested members of the Conservation Commission and the public.

32
33 **5. OLD BUSINESS**

34
35 **5(A). Town Forest Parking Lot Security**

1 Conversation about security at the Town Forest parking lot continued from the prior meeting. The
2 Commission discussed options for putting in a motion activated light in the parking lot as a
3 deterrent. If a solar light is not used, a new power pole would be needed. Gaherty will contact
4 Green Mountain Power to enquire about the cost of having electrical service provided to the site.
5 Castle will investigate lighting options with Public Works. The Commission will discuss possible
6 funding and actions once costs are better understood.

7
8 **5(B). Bombardier Park Management**
9

10 The discussion continued on what role the Conservation Commission should take in the
11 management of the Bombardier Park trails. On Monday 8/8 Dan, Judy and Bonnie walked the park
12 trails and looked for the locations of barbed wire and property boundaries with private land. The
13 wire was found, and it appears to mark existing property boundaries should not be removed
14 without consent of adjoining landowners.

15
16 The Commissioners feel they would like to undertake the management of the Bombardier Park
17 Trails. The trails should be managed and marked in a similar manner to the other natural area trails
18 in Milton. More information is needed on locations where the existing trails traverse private land,
19 and if any agreements are in place with those property owners. Without land use agreements in
20 place, the public trail network for the park should not enter private land. Castle will continue to
21 research the current situation.

22
23 **6. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)**
24

25 **6(B). Election of Officers**
26

27 The Commission discussed the election of new officers. MOTION by Kinner, SECOND by Pease to
28 elect Dan Gaherty as Chair. Unanimously APPROVED. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by DiCesare
29 to elect Judy Kinner as Vice-Chair. Unanimously APPROVED. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by
30 Kinner to elect DiCesare as Clerk. Unanimously APPROVED.

31
32 **6(C). Annual Conservation Commission Procedural Bylaws**
33

34 Minor changes were made to the bylaw. Castle will make the requested edits and have a final
35 version ready for review at the next meeting.

36
37 **7. Staff Updates**
38

39 **7(A). Grant Updates**
40

41 Castle updated that the wetland delineation field work was conducted by Charlotte Brodie of
42 Dubois and King. She was in the field Monday and Tuesday. Castle met her there Monday
43 morning to mark the rough locations of the proposed trail. Pease met her later in the day and
44 corrected some of Castle's trail flagging. The results of the delineation should be available shortly

1 and will be passed along to the Commission when received. An RFP will be produced and the
2 delineation will be provided to assist with cost estimation for the project.
3

4 **7(B). General Update**

5
6 Castle will be out on new parent leave for several weeks. He should be back for the meeting at the
7 end of September.
8

9 **8. MINUTES of May 24, 2016**

10 Pease MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 28, 2016 with minor corrections, SECOND by
11 DiCesare. APPROVED (4-0).
12

13 **9. ADJOURNMENT**

14 Pease motioned for the meeting adjournment at 9:00 p.m., SECOND by Gaherty, APPROVED
15 unanimously (4-0).
16

17 **Minutes approved by the Commission this _____ day of _____, 2016.**
18
19

20
21 **Dan Gaherty, Chair**

/jwc

22
23 **Draft filed with the Town Clerk this 11th day of August, 2016.**
24

25 **Filed with the Town Clerk this _____ day of _____, 2016.**
26