

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION (MCC) MEETING (unapproved draft)
WEDNESDAY, September 2, 2026

The meeting was held at the Public Safety Building (PSB) and was called to order by Patrick Calecas at 5:32 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Marielle Ambroch, Patrick Calecas, Kip Potter, Lynn Locher, Cliff Loos, James Wall

Absent: Joan Hildreth, Matt Paggi, Charles Snedikor

Visitors: Dorothy Abraham

Additions/Changes to Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes 08/05/26: Marielle made a motion to approve the minutes; Cliff seconded. All present voted in favor of approving the 08/05/26 minutes. Motion passed.

Budget/CD Update/Treasurer's Report: No update

Jewett Town Land Management Plan:

Dorothy from FCNRCD joined us to discuss the Management Plan.

- A list is available that details the completion status of the Plan.
- Dorothy went through the draft Plan with some general comments from the group. We can provide further comments to her via email.
- We went through and discussed the allowed uses that Marielle drafted.
- It was suggested that the hayfield around the water plant and the forested area behind the plant should be included in the Plan with a brief description.
- It was agreed that the parcel should be referred to as the "Jewett Town Land."
- The FCNRCD agreement needs to go to Charlie for signature, Patrick will send.
- Several questions regarding the SLR Floodplain Restoration Project were raised, Dorothy will submit them to SLR.

Events/Projects:

Recent:

- Farmer's Market – 8/15/26 – Patrick reported that we sold 10 raffle tickets. He, Kip, Lynn and Marielle were present at the MCC booth.
- Fall Field Mowing – We need Matt to coordinate with Derek to get the field mowed this fall.
- Tree Planting – We have until the end of October to plant the trees on the Jewett Town Land and spend the \$600 grant. Everybody is going to check with local nurseries to check on availability and pricing. We will keep each other updated via email.

- Knotweed Project – Kip made the recommendation that we cancel the Knotweed Project. Development of the QAPP has continued to be a problem. In addition, we already have a lot of work for the MCC to complete next year on the Town Forest. Kip also suggested that we should now focus on actual Knotweed control, rather than a demonstration project. Kip mentioned he is thinking of getting certified as a Pesticide Applicator. Patrick made a motion to cancel the project and Marielle seconded, all voted in favor of cancelling the project. Kip will notify the LCBP.
- Town Forest – No update.

Planned:

- Approval of the UVM Consulting Archaeology Program (CAP) Proposal for the Completion of an Archaeological Resources Assessment (ARA) at Town Forest (An ARA is an RTP Grant Requirement) – Cliff made the motion to approve the proposal, seconded by Marielle. All voted in favor.
- Bird Habitat Work on Town Forest – No update.

Proposed/Discussion/Updates:

a. MCC Logo Stickers - Distribution – Patrick made several dozen copies of the MCC brochure.

e. Replacement Tree for MES 2025 Graduating Class – Marielle will check with the new principal on a replacement cherry tree and where it should be planted.

g. Farmer's Market – dates, plans – The MCC plans to be present at the Farmer's Market again on September 19th. Raffle tickets for the bat box and the Beaver Meadow gift certificate will be sold there.

Marielle made a motion, seconded by Cliff, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Kip Potter.