

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION (MCC) MEETING (unapproved draft)
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Carissa Stein at 5:45 p.m. at the Public Safety Building (PSB) conference room. Attendance: Susan Baker, Joan Hildreth, Parma Jewett, Misty McCartney, Matt Paggi, Carissa Stein. Absent: Charlie Hancock, Sue Wilson. It should be noted that Monica Hill has resigned from the MCC. Visitor(s): None.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda – None.

Minutes from November 6, 2019 – Misty made a motion to approve the November 6th minutes; seconded by Parma. Motion passed unanimously; minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report – Sue was absent, but Carissa reported that the total of MCC funds as of this date is \$3,783.12. Parma moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved. Misty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Planned Events:

- **Winter Tracking with Travis Worthington - co-sponsored by the MCC and Richford Conservation Commission (RCC) - Saturday, March 7th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the PSB and in the field** – Plans are all set.
- **“What’s Your Watermark?” Film & Panel Discussion co-sponsored by the MCC and RCC – Wednesday, April 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the Grange**– There was discussion re: the panelists for the event. Carissa will be reaching out to them re: the formulation of questions to be addressed. This event will be promoted via the MCC’s usual methods.
- **Woodcock Evening, Including Potluck with Bridget Butler – co-sponsored by the MCC and RCC in Richford on April 25th at 7 p.m.** -This event will be promoted.
- **Tree Sale - Spring 2020 on Saturday, May 2nd** – Order sheets were handed out at Town Meeting on 3/3. Carissa is coordinating this event. It will also be promoted via Facebook and the listserv.
- **Green Up Day (GUD) on Saturday May 2nd** – This is the 50th annual GUD. Misty reported that there is a new state-wide GUD coordinator. Misty is the coordinator for Montgomery. All agreed re: the importance of the MCC’s support of and involvement in this event. Misty raised the idea of purchasing GUD T-shirts to give to those who help with coordination of the event. After discussion, Matt moved that the MCC authorize up to \$120.00 for the purchase of T-shirts. Susan seconded and the motion passed unanimously. This event will be promoted.
- **Bird Watching on the Rail Trail with Bridget Butler – May 24th at 8:00 a.m. co-sponsored by the MCC and RCC.** – All set. This will be promoted.

Other Planned Events to Promote - RCC:

- **RCC is sponsoring a Grasslands Birds workshop on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:30 p.m. at the Richford Emergency Building.**

Proposed MCC Events/Projects:

- **Owl Presentation with Kurt Valenta – May or June** – Sue has been in contact with Kurt about this, but she was unable to attend this meeting. Therefore, discussion tabled until next meeting.
- **Bat Awareness/Bat Box Sale or Raffle** – Proposed co-sponsored event with the RCC. Lindsey Wight is interested in doing this around the end of June. Details being worked on.
- **Riparian Restoration Workshop** – Carissa raised ideas about the location and focus and all agreed that this would be a great event for the summer. Carissa will talk to the proposed presenter about it.
- **MCC 2021 Calendar** – Parma handed out submission forms at the Town Meeting on 3/3 and already has some submissions. She will send Joan the form for posting on the MCC Facebook page and will send it to Carissa for distribution via the listserv.
- **Library Collaboration, Discovery Backpacks, Conservation Corner, Bulletin Board** – Misty is working on the backpack information. Matt has a book list started and will re-distribute it to other MCC members for review and any additions. Misty and Carissa will work on the bulletin board project, including providing an interactive component to it.
- **Promotional Matchbook-Like Covers with Candy** – Parma is working on this.
- **Linking various projects to presentations** – Parma raised the idea of doing something with mason bee boxes, blue bird boxes, praying mantis, and/or ladybugs. There was discussion about having a presentation in conjunction with a project. For example, a talk about mason bees along with actually making mason bee boxes. All thought that there would be great options for adults and children. Parma agreed formulate a concept for this kind of event.

Other Business/Discussion:

- **Town Forest Signs** - Tabled – Charlie has been working on this but was not able to be at the meeting.
- **McGregor Bequest** – Carissa reported that the MCC should be receiving the check soon, and once received it will go to the Town Treasurer for deposit into the MCC's account.
- **Bylaws** – Carissa reported that she, Sue and Charlie did work on this over the winter and she will send out a draft of their proposal.
- **Membership** – Monica resigned but it was agreed that it would be good to leave the option open for her to return if her schedule allows in the future.
- **CC Jamboree** – Carissa reported on the ideas raised there, including Bioblitz.
- **Bringing the Outdoors Indoors with Montgomery Elementary School (MES)**– All agreed that the MCC would like to be involved with this.
- **Budget** – The MCC decided to withdraw the \$750.00 request from the Town this year in order to help ease financial pressures the Town is experiencing.

Matt made a motion, seconded by Misty, to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. Passed unanimously.
Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth