TOWN OF MONTGOMERY PO BOX 356 MONTGOMERY CENTER, VT 05471 802-326-4719 <u>http://www.montgomeryvt.us</u> CONSERVATION COMMISSION (MCC) MEETING (unapproved draft) WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Carissa Stein at 5:45 p.m. at the Grange. Attendance: Susan Baker, Joan Hildreth, Lynn Locher, Matt Paggi, Carissa Stein, Sue Wilson. Absent: Charlie Hancock, Parma Jewett, Misty McCartney. Visitor(s): None. <u>Additions/Deletions to Agenda</u> – None.

<u>Minutes from July1, 2020</u> – Of the six MCC members in attendance at the August meeting, only four had attended the July meeting. Therefore, there was not a quorum (minimum of five) for a vote on the July minutes. The plan is to vote on the July minutes at the September meeting (assuming there is a quorum then).

<u>Treasurer's Report –</u> No Treasurer's Report available.

Planned Events: (Given the Covid-19 situation, all planning remains tentative and fluid.)

- Bat Awareness Presentation Lindsey Wight/Bat Box Raffle –
 Wednesday, August 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Grange AND via Zoom. Co-sponsored with RCC. Immediately following the meeting. All set. Covid-19 guidelines being followed.
- Mums Sale Saturday, September 5th, 9 to noon. 2 locations In front of Grange and Pratt Hall. Sue W. is ordering 75 mums and will arrange delivery.
- **"What's Your Watermark?" Film & Panel Discussion co-sponsored by the MCC and RCC – CANCELLED** Given the Covid 19 situation, the decision was made to cancel this for now and hopefully reschedule for the Spring of 2021
- Owl Presentation with Kurt Valenta, originally scheduled for Wed., Oct. 7th at 6:30 p.m. After discussion, it was decided to hold off on any more live presentations for now due to Covid-19. Sue W. will talk with Kurt to see if his presentation would work well via Zoom, and if he would be interested in doing it that way. If not, it would be cancelled altogether for now.

Proposed/Existing MCC Projects:

- MCC 2021 Calendar Parma has been coordinating this. Sue W. will call her to see if the calendars could be available for sale along with mums on 9/5.
- Library Collaboration, Discovery Backpacks, Conservation Corner, Bulletin Board – Matt reported that there is nothing new to report because the library is still not open. Misty has information re: the backpacks, but was not at this meeting. Tabled for now.
- Montgomery Elementary School (MES)/MCC Forest Trail Collaboration Carissa is meeting with the principal, Sandy Alexander, on Monday, 8/10 at 5:00 p.m. at the school to discuss. Other MCC members are welcome.

Other Business/Discussion:

- **McGregor Bequest Investment CD Rates –** Tabled. Sue W. has inquired re: rates and is awaiting reply with relevant information.
- Green Up Day (GUD) Maple Tree Planting Misty has information but was not at this meeting. Tabled until next meeting.
- McGregor Memorial Lilac has been planted and the marker has been placed next to the bench.
- Town Forest & Other Signs <u>Town Forest</u> Carissa had sent out an e-mail with points for further consideration re: potential vandalism/abuse of the forest, including any signage. After discussion, all agreed that Matt would contact Charlie re: the status of any proposed or existing forest management plan for the Town Forest as well as coordinating a walk through it. This should help inform decisions re: how to best proceed, including with signage. Wild and Scenic Signs Misty has relevant information and was not at this meeting. Tabled until next meeting.
- **Bylaws** Final copy of bylaws signed by MCC members.
- McGregor Bequest Utilization, Including Inventory of Resources Carissa contacted Amanda Holland of the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) to seek input about funding sources, etc. related to completing an inventory of Town resources and she shared Amanda's response. All agreed that it would be beneficial to pursue this and to discuss further at the next meeting in September.

Sue W. made a motion, seconded by Susan, to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Passed unanimously. Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth