

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING (unapproved draft)
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. at the Public Safety Building (PSB) conference room. In attendance: Charlie Hancock, Joan Hildreth, Todd Lantery, Misty McCartney, Carissa Stein, Sue Wilson Absent: None Visitor(s): Heather Murphy from MRBA

- Additions/Deletions to Agenda – None
- Welcome to New Member and Visitor – Carissa and Heather, respectively
- Minutes from August 2, 2017 reviewed. Sue made a motion to approve the August minutes as written, Misty seconded, the motion passed. August minutes approved.
- September meeting - A meeting occurred in September, but there was not a quorum. Therefore, no decisions could be made, and no formal minutes were taken. In attendance then were Sue Wilson, Charlie Hancock, Carissa Stein and Monica Hill. The following topics were discussed: Bat Presentation, Tree Sale in the spring, sale of bat box raffle tickets at the Farmers' Market, and Bee Presentation. It was agreed that these topics would be brought up again at the October meeting. Carissa had informed the Board members present of her interest in joining the Board (and she is now a member). Monica Hill also stated that, perhaps in the spring, she would be interested in joining.
- Treasurer's Report/Fundraising Update: No update available. The latest balance in the account as of 8/2/17 was \$8,174.90.
- Planned Events:
 - o **Bats Presentation with Alyssa Bennett– Friday, October 27th, 2017 1-3 p.m. at the Montgomery Elementary School.** (Bat box to be installed following the event.)

Proposed Events/Fundraisers:

- o **Bats Presentation by Lindsey Wight– this would be for people of all ages – co-sponsored by MCC, RCC and Wild and Scenic.** Details TBD. In conjunction with this theme, a **bat box is being raffled off**, and the winner will be announced at a time TBD. This is a joint effort with RCC, and all proceeds will be used to buy materials for building additional bat boxes. Joan will put info re: the bat box raffle on the MCC Facebook page.

- **Bees Presentation – proposed for November.** Charlie will ask John Little about his availability for doing a presentation.
 - **Pollinator Presentation** – March or April of 2018
 - **Mushroom Walk** – Elliot Cluba had proposed summer/fall 2017 dates which did not work for the MCC. Spring/summer of 2018 possible instead.
 - **Mushroom Growing** – Sue had raised the idea of a presentation by Ben Dillner/UVM re: a local mushroom project. She will check into this re: feasibility/timing for the spring of 2018.
 - **NRCS Workshop** – Carissa brought this idea up. All agreed that this would be great for spring of 2018.
- OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATION –
- Water Quality Monitoring – Trout River – River Walk Park – Has continued. Last sampling for the year will be October 18th. Will resume monitoring again after that in the spring of 2018.
 - Municipal Planning Grant for Natural Resource Inventory – Charlie reported that, due to a change in focus of the funding organization, we would probably not be awarded a grant on this next round either. There was discussion re: exploring funding for the Natural Resource Inventory through Wild and Scenic. Misty will check into this, and Charlie agreed to provide supporting documents as needed.
 - AVCC Membership – No new info re: when membership fees are due.
 - Cold Hollow to Canada (CHC) – The \$100 from MCC for membership was received by CHC. Reminder that the **CHC Annual Gathering is October 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Grange in Montgomery.**
 - Franklin County Conservation District Tree Sale – Carissa raised the idea of Montgomery being a drop point for the sale. This would encourage greater local involvement in the sale and make it much easier for members of the community to benefit from the program. The sale would occur in early 2018.
 - Trout River Sediment Loads & Stabilization, & Related Info – Carissa brought this issue up, and there was discussion about its importance. Related to this, Charlie shared about grants the town has received to address erosion and otherwise improve practices concerning the maintenance of dirt roads and culverts. Charlie offered to provide the MCC with a written summary of the grants. Carissa offered to share a related 2012 report on the Missisquoi River and its tributaries.
 - MCC Meeting Schedule – A reminder that the MCC’s last meeting for the year will be on Nov. 1st, with no meetings after that until March 7th, 2018.

Motion made by Todd to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Sue seconded, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth