

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
PO BOX 356
MONTGOMERY CENTER, VT 05471
802-326-4719 <http://www.montgomeryvt.us>
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING (unapproved draft)
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Charlie Hancock at 5:15 p.m. at the Public Safety Building (PSB) conference room. Attendance: Charlie Hancock, Joan Hildreth, Todd Lantery, Carissa Stein, Sue Wilson. Absent: Monica Hill, Misty McCartney, Visitor(s): None

- Additions/Deletions to Agenda – None
- Minutes from October 3, 2018 – Because Joan and Carissa were not at the October meeting, there was not a quorum for approval of the minutes this evening. Therefore, review of the October minutes was tabled until the next meeting (March of 2019).
- Treasurer’s Report/Fundraising/Expenses Update: Sue reported that, as of 11/5/18, the MCC has \$10,995.10. Around 11/25/18, the Town will provide an additional \$750 per the approved budget. Sue will soon be working on next year’s MCC budget. It was agreed by all in attendance to request the same amount from the Town as this year (\$750) for next year.
- Trail upgrade along the Trout River – Carissa provided to everyone on the MCC info re: her analysis of soil erosion issues on the trail. She summarized as follows: a series of diversions, culverts and/or swales are needed; recommend that management of the trail should change (including with regard to mowing practices); upgraded culvert sizing and placement would be beneficial. She also suggested trying simple fixes first. There was discussion re: the best ways to proceed, and there was recognition of stakeholders who should be involved in future discussions/planning (landowners, VAST, Grateful Treads, Wild and Scenic, etc.) Charlie agreed to talk with a VAST representative first to elicit their ideas and degree of interest in involvement, and to inquire about the agreements/involvement they currently have with landowners. The next steps will then be determined.
- MCC Meeting Schedule and Membership/Reorganization of Board: As agreed upon at the October meeting, today was the last MCC meeting of 2018. Monthly meetings will resume on March 6, 2019 at the PSB. As discussed at the October meeting, Todd is stepping down from the MCC after this meeting. Charlie had a recent discussion with Matt Paggi, and he is interested in joining the MCC. All agreed that Matt would be an excellent addition. Joan moved that the MCC recommend Matt’s appointment to the Selectboard. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously. A couple of other recommendations for additional members were made and those will be pursued. In addition, Charlie expressed his desire to step down as Chair of the MCC (but he plans to remain on the MCC.) Possible replacements as Chair were discussed, but no decisions yet made.

- Planned and Proposed Events/Fundraisers:
- **No specific planned MCC events (with firm dates) currently, but the following ideas were proposed:**
 - **Fisheries Program** – Todd will send info to Joan re: a similar program which was presented in the past.
 - **Tree Sale (NRCS)** - Plan to do this again this next year. Carissa will get details re: dates/ timing. She suggested a **Charlie Nardozi presentation on edible plants** to coordinate with this as well as a **planting workshop/class**. Everyone thought that those were great ideas.
 - **Presentation about Coyotes** – Joan shared re: a speaker at the Northeast Wildlife Trackers Conference held in MA in October, and suggested that this person should be considered for an MCC-hosted presentation. Joan will send the other MCC members info re: the speaker.
 - **Other programs/ideas** – Everyone agreed to think about other ideas during the winter hiatus from MCC meetings.

OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATION -

- None

Todd made a motion, seconded by Sue, to adjourn at 5:55 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by, Joan Hildreth