

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING (unapproved draft)
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018

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, Carissa Stein, Sue Wilson. Absent: Misty McCartney Visitor(s): Monica Hill (Monica is interested in joining the MCC, and her appointment will be brought before the Selectboard for approval.)

Additions/Deletions to Agenda – Tiny Grants opportunity – added to agenda

- Minutes from March 7, 2018 reviewed. Sue made a motion to approve the March minutes as written, Charlie seconded, the motion passed. March minutes approved.
- Treasurer's Report/Fundraising Update: The latest balance in the account as of 4/4/18 was \$8,923.00.
- Planned Events:
 - o **Mushroom Walk with Elliot Cluba at the Montgomery Town Forest – Sunday, 4/22/18 1 to 3 p.m.** Charlie will make poster
 - o **Bat Box Workshop co-sponsored with RCC in Richford on 4/28/18**
 - o **Beekeeping Presentation by James Lariviere of Northern Border Apiaries- 5/2/18 6:30 p.m. at PSB**
 - o **Green-Up Day – May 5th** – Misty and Deanna are coordinating this. We need to check with them about where to set up. (Farmers' Market won't be happening that day – starts later in the year.)
 - o **Tree Sale Pick-Up – May 5th from 12-2 at PSB** People who didn't know about the Montgomery pick-up option can switch to that location, if preferred.
 - o **Bird Walk with Bridget Butler co-sponsored with RCC at Goynes' property in Richford 5/26.**
 - o **Mushroom Cultivation with Mike Walker of Philo Woodland Farm (which is in Charlotte) – June 6th at 6:30 at the PSB** Presenter charges \$80 plus cost of gas. Carissa moved that we pay this amount, Todd seconded, motion passed. Sue will ask Mike to send an invoice as well as a description of the presentation for promotional purposes.

Proposed Events/Fundraisers:

- o **Pollinator Plants/Gardening Presentation** maybe in July or August. Sue will check into Leonard Perry or Charlie Nardozi.

- **Emerald Ash Borer & Tent Caterpillar presentation – outdoors, in the field.** Idea of inviting an entomologist from the state or other expert further discussed. Carissa is checking into this. RCC would be interested in joining MCC in addressing this important issue.
 - **Land Management Workshop (including info re: pollinators) – outdoors, in the field.** Maybe end of August. Carissa is working on this. Might have entomologist at this, too. Possible site for the presentation discussed and will be pursued.
 - **River Clean-Up Maybe Sept 8th?** This discussion was tabled. Misty could not be at meeting tonight, and she has the info re: this, including update on coordination with other organizations.
 - **Water Quality Issues Presentation/Panel** – maybe September. Tabled until next meeting.
 - **Fund Raising Dinner at the Black Lantern Inn** – Sue reported on this option and all agreed that it was a great idea. She will check on possible dates. The idea of doing this jointly with Cold Hollow to Canada will be explored.
- OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATION –
 - Membership Letter Mailing – Sue reported that materials are just about set, but we need to get the letter done. Charlie will write it. Targeting the mailing for June of 2018
 - Tiny Grants Application due April 13th. Discussed applying for grant in order to procure signage for the Town Forest. Charlie will work on this.
 - Northeast Wildflowers – NEK blend flower seed packets – Monica raised the idea of selling these as a fundraiser and will get additional information. Everyone thought it was a great idea.
 - Rec Center \$ for River Walk work – It was reported that \$5,000 in grant \$ was received by the Rec Center for much needed work at the River Walk park.
 - Alternative Methods of Controlling Knotweed – Discussion of the importance of exploring various environmentally safe ways of managing knotweed. Todd offered to share info he has about this at a future meeting.

Sue moved that we adjourn, Todd seconded, motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth