

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY  
PO BOX 356  
MONTGOMERY CENTER, VT05471  
802-326-4719

<http://www.montgomeryvt.us>

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING (Unapproved Draft of Minutes)  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

In attendance: Joan Hildreth, Todd Lantery, Misty McCartney, Sue Wilson. Absent: Charlie Hancock. Guest/Visitor: Lindsey Wight from Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)

- Additions/Corrections to Agenda: Misty proposed adding a new fundraiser idea to be discussed under Proposed Fundraisers/Events (“People’s Prom...” below).
- Minutes from February 3, 2016 and March 2, 2016 were reviewed. Todd made a motion to approve the February minutes as written, Misty seconded, and the motion passed. February minutes approved. Todd made a motion to approve the March minutes as written, Misty seconded, and the motion passed. March minutes approved
- Lindsey Wight of MRBA informed the Montgomery Conservation Commission (MCC) that MRBA is applying for a restoration-based grant for design work on two Town-owned properties which abut the Trout River in order to explore the feasibility of a new small park/river access in Montgomery Center as well as a redesign of the River Walk Park in the village. She provided an overview and presented a proposed letter of support for the MCC to sign if in agreement. There was discussion as well as a questions/answer period. Todd made a motion for the MCC to support this endeavor and sign the letter. Joan seconded, and the motion passed. All MCC members in attendance signed the letter. A copy of the unsigned letter was kept to be included with the minutes for the record.
- Green-Up Day: This will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016. Misty offered to be the MCC’s representative for this event and she will coordinate with Deanna. Other MCC members present were unsure about availability that day, but will help if able. Joan will post on the MCC’s Facebook page information re: Green Up Day when it is available.
- Treasurer’s Report: Sue reported that the MCC’s balance as of 4/5/2016 was **\$5,303.17**. This figure includes the Paint & Sip event profit of \$821.95 and the “Jumbo Wild” profit of \$68.00. Total expenses were reported as \$541.64. Thus far, we have \$60.00 in membership for 2016. In addition, we will receive \$750.00 in October as voted and approved by the Town.
- Planned Events:
  - o Apple Tree Pruning – This was originally planned for April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00, but we discussed changing it to **April 24, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. (location TBD)**. Joan will check with Charlie to see if that date would work.
  - o Bird Walk –Sunday, May 15, 2016 with Bridget Butler 7:30 – 10:00 a.m. at the Richford Town Forest. Partnering with Richford Conservation Commission (RCC). Total cost is \$250.00. MCC’s share would be

\$125.00. Todd moved that we partner with RCC on this and approve the \$125.00 for payment. Misty seconded, and the motion passed. Joan will contact Bridget asking her to submit a bill at her earliest convenience.

- New and Underused Perennials with Leonard Perry– **Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Public Safety Building (PSB)**. Partnering with the Covered Bridges Garden Club (CBGC). Total cost of \$75.00. MCC's share would be \$37.50. Sue moved that we partner with CBGC on this and approve the \$37.50 for payment. Todd seconded, and the motion passed.

- Proposed Events/Fundraisers:

- Bats Unconfirmed date of Thursday May 12, 2016 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in Richford. This would involve a presentation and the building of bat houses afterward. Possible presenter – Scott Darling. Partnering with RCC. RCC & Charlie are exploring presenters. Joan moved that we partner with RCC on this and split the cost. Todd seconded, and the motion passed.
  - People's Prom "Step and Repeat" photos - May 28, 2016 at 9:00 p.m. at the Grange Misty proposed this fundraiser. She would take photos of people at the prom for a fee. ½ of the proceeds would go to the Grange, the other ½ to the MCC. There was discussion and everyone thought it was a great idea
  - VINS – Reptiles Presentation - Sometime before the end of the school year at the Elementary School. Sue moved that we book this presentation. Todd seconded it, and the motion passed. Sue will work on dates/details for this.
  - Water Quality presentation – Sometime before the end of the school year at the Elementary School Todd plans to talk with someone at Lake Champlain International (LCI) about doing this presentation for children and will get back to us. Everyone really liked the idea.
  - After School Program for elementary school children for **next school year, starting in September 2016**. Misty and Todd will work on ideas for this.
  - The Four Cs of Madagascar by Hank Kaestner. RCC brought up this idea for a free presentation **to be held either in the summer or fall of this year**, and we could partner with them. Joan gave a brief overview and everyone thought it was a good idea. We will coordinate with RCC and the presenter on a date/time/location.
- Town-Wide Natural Resource Inventory – Sue moved that we table discussion of this until the next meeting when Charlie is there to discuss. Todd seconded, and the motion passed.
- Atlas Timberlands- Sue moved that we table discussion of this until the next meeting when Charlie is there to discuss. Todd seconded, and the motion passed. Everyone was reminded about the **informational meeting re: this on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the PSB**

- Other Business:

Water Quality Testing – Misty brought up the idea of the MCC being involved in testing the quality of water of portions of the Missisquoi River Watershed which are in Montgomery. (For example, portions of the following: the Trout River, Hannah Clark Brook, Jay Br., Wade Br., West Hill Br., Black Falls Br., Alder Brook, S. Branch of the Trout, Pacific Brook.) Everyone really liked the idea of this. Todd said that he could help with obtaining the necessary materials. Lindsey suggested that Karen Bates from the Agency of Natural Resources could be helpful. Todd and Misty will explore our involvement in testing.

MCC Fundraising

Membership Letters – Need to get letters ready for mailing soon. Joan will work on draft. Sue reported that we will be able to split the bulk mailing permit cost with others (Library and Rec. Dept.)

Membership Cards – Sue suggested that we have these available to give out at all of our events. Everyone agreed that this was a good idea.

Motion made by Sue to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Misty seconded, and the motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth