

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY  
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING (unapproved draft)  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

In attendance: Charlie Hancock, Joan Hildreth, Todd Lantery, Sue Wilson

Absent: Misty McCartney. No Visitors

Additions/Corrections to Agenda: Added: Discussion of “People’s Prom” photo fundraiser and status of MCC fundraising letters.

- Minutes from April 6, 2016 were reviewed. Sue made a motion to approve the April minutes as written, Todd seconded, and the motion passed. April minutes approved.
- Green-Up Day: All set for Saturday, May 7, 2016. Misty & Todd will be the MCC’s representatives for this event, coordinating with Deanna. Info and flyer posted on the MCC’s Facebook (FB) page and flyers have been distributed.
- Treasurer’s Report/Fundraising Update: Sue reported that she was informed that the MCC’s balance as of 5/3/2016 was **\$3,391.57**. She said that she is seeking further clarification re: the inclusion (or not) in this figure of the Paint & Sip event profit of \$821.95 and the “Jumbo Wild” profit of \$68.00 as well as membership payments. She hopes to have this clarification shortly.
- Planned Events`/Fundraisers:
  - o Bird Walk with Bridget Butler - **Sunday, May 15, 2016** 7:30 – 10:00 a.m. at the Richford Town Forest. Partnering with Richford Conservation Commission (RCC). All set. Still a few spaces left. Advertised through FB as well as flyers and e-mails.
  - o “Cold Blooded Critters” with VINS – **Thursday, May 26, 2016** at the Montgomery Elementary School. All set. Posted on FB, other flyers distributed. Open to parents and community members in addition to the students. Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup> – 1-1:30; 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 1:45 -2:30.
  - o People’s Prom “Step and Repeat” photos (fundraiser) – Saturday, May 28, 2016 at 9:00 p.m. at the Grange. Misty will take photos of people at the prom for a fee. ½ of the proceeds will go to the Grange, the other ½ to the MCC. Looking for additional photographers to help Misty with this. Everyone will check around to see if anyone can assist.
  - o “New and Underused Perennials” with Leonard Perry– **Wednesday, June 1, 2016** at 6:30 p.m. at the Public Safety Building (PSB). Partnering with CBGC. All set. Charlie offered to work on a flyer, and we will spread the word via FB & e-mails.
  - o “The Four Cs of Madagascar” with Hank Kaestner. **Thursday, September 15, 2016** at 6:30 p.m. at the Grange. Partnering with RCC.

- Bats with Alyssa Bennett from VT Fish & Wildlife. **Thursday, October 20, 2016.** Specifics re: time/location in Richford TBD. Partnering with RCC.
- Proposed Events/Fundraisers:
  - “The Messenger” film – Possibility of showing this film sometime **this coming winter or next spring.** (Partner with RCC.) This is about the plight of songbirds worldwide. Everyone liked the idea, and Charlie suggested perhaps pairing it with a bird walk/talk with Bridget Butler next spring. The film could be shown as a fundraiser. Joan will share these thoughts with RCC.
  - Water Quality presentation – Possible program for the Montgomery Day Camp **this summer.** Todd is exploring this.
  - After School Program for elementary school children for **next school year, starting in September 2016.** Misty and Todd plan to meet about this soon.
- AVCC Tiny Grants Program (applications due May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016)  
Charlie presented the idea of applying for a grant through this program to help fund a Town-Wide Natural Resource Inventory which would be utilized to inform decisions re: zoning by-laws and the town plan. There was discussion and everyone agreed on the significant benefits of being able to complete the inventory (and having funding assistance to allow it to happen). Charlie will complete and submit the application.
- Atlas Timberlands- Charlie provided an overview of the parcels coming up for sale by Vermont Land Trust (VLT), and the many benefits to the town if one of them were to become a town forest. Costs were discussed as well. In addition, Charlie provided a summary of what transpired at the informational meeting with VLT representatives which was held in town on April 21, 2016. Everyone agreed that it would be worth pursuing ways in which the town could acquire one of the parcels. Charlie plans to set up a meeting with the MCC, VLT and other interested stakeholders re: how to proceed. He is also checking into other resources related to this idea.
- Other Business:  
MCC Fundraising  
Membership Letters – Sue has had everything printed and we are all set to go. We will schedule an envelope stuffing session sometime in June.  
Library Books/Resources Marlene, the new librarian, has offered to order books and other materials which are related to conservation to have at the library. Everyone is very appreciative and listed a number of recommended books. Joan will compile the list with everyone’s input and forward it to Marlene this week.

Motion made by Sue to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. Todd seconded, and the motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth