

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING (unapproved draft)
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. at the Public Safety Building (PSB) conference room. In attendance: Charlie Hancock, Sue Wilson, Joan Hildreth. Absent: Misty McCartney Todd Lantery. No visitors.

- Additions/Deletions to Agenda - None
- Minutes from August 3, 2016 reviewed. Sue made a motion to approve the August minutes as written, Charlie seconded, the motion passed. August minutes approved.
- Treasurer's Report/Fundraising Update: Sue reported that, to date, we have received \$1,930.00 in membership from 31 people. Fundraising for 2016 to date totals \$1,322.50. As of 1/1/16 we had a balance of \$4,080.17. Expenses for 2016 thus far total \$1,427.26. Therefore, we have $(1,930 + 1,322.50 + 4,080.17 - 1,427.26 =)$ \$5,905.41. (Sue said that Deanna had reported a balance of \$5,300, but that might not have included some of the more recent membership money.)
- Thank You Cards to Donors: It was agreed to write the notes at the next regularly scheduled meeting in October. **(If we have a visitor, we will plan to meet at 4:00 p.m. to work on the cards prior to the meeting. If no visitor, meet at 5.)**
- Planned Events`/Fundraisers:
 - o "The Four Cs of Madagascar" with Hank Kaestner. **Thursday, September 15, 2016** at 6:30 p.m. at the Grange. Partnering with RCC. Joan & Charlie are both unable to attend. Joan will let Annette at RCC know that Sue has agreed to be the contact person from MCC and Joan will ask her about what refreshments will be needed and let Sue know.
 - o Bats with Alyssa Bennett from VT Fish & Wildlife. **Thursday, October 20, 2016**. Specifics re: time/location in Richford TBD. Partner with RCC.
 - o "Animals of the North" with Sue Morse. **Thursday, January 19, 2017 at the Montgomery Center for the Arts. Time TBD**. MCC will co-sponsor this with Cold Hollow to Canada (CHC), and the total cost of \$300 to \$350 will be split 50/50. .
- Municipal Planning Grant - Charlie has been in contact with Northwest Regional Planning Commission re: this. The contact person from there will be Taylor Newton. Charlie will invite him to our next meeting to discuss this further. The grant would be used for completing a Town-Wide Natural Resource Inventory. (Arrowwood Environmental of Lowell is a possible firm to hire for this task.)
- Gibou/Atlas Project – A meeting was held on August 29th with Charlie, Joan, members of the local mountain bike club (Grateful Treads) and a representative from the regional mountain bike club (VMBA) to discuss ideas about the land. There appeared to be interest in exploring it being a multi-use (backcountry/cross country skiing, snowshoeing, biking, hiking) recreational area. Charlie plans to

talk with Brad Kennison, a member of the backcountry skiing community to assess interest in involvement in a possible steering committee. Charlie is also working on getting more details about purchase price for the land as well as timber value and any restrictions on future use of the property.

- Other Business/Events: **CHC Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 27th in the evening at the Grange.** There will be food and the speaker will be John Elder. This is a celebration of CHC and its achievements over the year. All interested members of the community are welcome. There will be a suggested donation of \$10 per person.

Motion made by Joan to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Sue seconded, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth