

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY  
PO BOX 356; MONTGOMERY CENTER, VT 05471  
802-326-4719 <http://www.montgomeryvt.us>  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION (MCC) MEETING (unapproved draft)  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Carissa Stein at 5:37 p.m. via Zoom. Attendance: Susan Baker, Joan Hildreth, John Kuryloski, Lynn Locher, Carissa Stein, Sue Wilson. Absent: Patrick Calecas, Parma Jewett, Charlie Hancock, Matt Paggi. Visitor(s): None  
Additions/Deletions to Agenda – None.

New Appointment to MCC: It should be noted that Patrick Calecas was appointed to the MCC by the Selectboard on March 15, 2021. His term is for 4 years and will expire 2025. Welcome to Patrick.

Minutes from November 4, 2020 – Susan B. made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Lynn. The members present who had been at the Nov. meeting all voted in favor. John and Sue W. abstained. Motion passed; Nov. 2020 minutes approved.

Minutes from March 3, 2021 – Sue W. made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by John. The members who had been at the March meeting all voted in favor. Susan B. abstained. Motion passed; March 2021 minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report – Sue W. reported that the balance remained the same as it was in March. The checking account balance is \$14,523 and there is a 6-month CD for \$75,000 which will come due in June of '21. Carissa made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Susan B. Motion passed unanimously; report approved.

**Planned Events/Projects:**

- **Amphibians and Reptiles Zoom presentation by Jim Andrews, state herpetologist – Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Co-sponsored by Richford and Enosburg Conservation Commissions (RCC and ECC).** Flyers, listserv, Town website and Facebook have been utilized to promote this event. Reminders will be sent out next week and Joan will post info on Front Porch Forum. Joan will check with Annette re: the invoice.
- **Green Up Day (GUD) May 1<sup>st</sup> and Tree From 2020** – Carissa will check with Misty to see if she is still involved with GUD coordination and flyers. If not, she will check with Liz at the Town. The MCC will promote the event thru usual channels. Carissa will also find out the status of the maple tree received last year and check with the Selectboard re: a location for planting it.
- **Franklin County Conservation District Tree Sale – May 1<sup>st</sup>.** Matt is available to help with deliveries, if needed. Carissa plans to pick trees up April 30<sup>th</sup> and do some deliveries, but most of the trees will be at the PSB for pickup on May 1<sup>st</sup> between 10 and 1. Sue W. offered to help at the PSB.
- **Tree and Plaque for 2021 MES Graduating Class** – An apple tree is being purchased. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be available to help with the planting. Sandy Alexander will let the MCC know when that can be. A decision was made re: the quote for the plaque “Trees are poems the earth writes upon the sky...” K.

Gibran. Joan made a motion to use this quote; seconded by Carissa. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Riparian Planting Workshop – Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 to 1:00 at land across from Riverwalk Park – MCC in coordination with Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)** – Participants will learn about tree planting and knotweed management, and there will be discussion of other relevant questions which arise. As with all programs/projects, recommended COVID -19 social distancing guidelines will be followed. Carissa will make a flyer and the event will be promoted locally.
- **Birding and Wellness Zoom presentation by Bridget Butler – Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Co-sponsored with RCC.** Joan will check with Annette re: flyers and the invoice. Usual promotional means will be utilized.
- **Town Forest Improvements/Coordination with Adjoining Landowners** – It was reported that Charlie will soon complete the update of the Forest Management Plan (FMP). There was discussion re: sending letters to abutting landowners soon after that to share info re: the FMP and to initiate coordination with them re: any proposed improvements to the Town Forest.
- **Love Your Mums Sale – 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in September** – Sue W. has ordered the 100 mums for the sale. More details will be discussed at future meetings.

**Discussion:**

- **Water Quality Improvements Along the Trout River Trail** – Carissa reported that the completed UMATR grant application and supporting documentation was submitted on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Decisions re: the grants will be made later this month. Letters to landowners went out prior to the submission informing them about the erosion concerns and the MCC's intention to apply for funding for a feasibility study re: addressing those concerns.
- **Bat Boxes** – To be installed at the Rec. Center, Riverwalk and the MES. Lindsey & Carissa exploring sign options. Carissa plans to follow up with Lindsey and the Rec. Board.
- **Swimming Hole Signs** – Landowners will need to be contacted for their permission re: placement of signs. Carissa plans to coordinate with Lindsey re: sign installations.

Sue W. made a motion, seconded by Susan B, to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth