

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY  
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802-326-4719 <http://www.montgomeryvt.us>  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION (MCC) MEETING (unapproved draft)  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022

Meeting was called to order at the Rec. Center by Carissa Stein at 5:37 p.m. Attendance: Susan Baker, Patrick Calecas, Joan Hildreth, John Kuryloski, Lynn Locher, Matt Paggi, Karen Stanley, Carissa Stein, Sue Wilson Absent: Parma Jewett

Visitors: None

Additions/Deletions to Agenda – None.

Minutes 7/6/22– Patrick made a motion, seconded by Susan B. to approve the July minutes. The motion passed unanimously; July 2022 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Not available

**Planned Events/Projects:**

**-Montgomery Town Library Collaboration and Book Trail** –Lynn plans to reach out to the Town librarian, Marlene, re: the status of this. The idea was to have the book trail available during the summer, prior to the start of the school year. If it could still be done this year, that would be great. If not, it could be planned for the summer of 2023.

**-Three Holes and Mill Trail and Reflection Bench** – Susan B. reported that there has still been no response from the abutting landowner, but she will continue with efforts to reach that person. Susan has been at the site recently and said she was pleased to see that there was no trash there. It was suggested that interested and available members of the MCC could take a walk there (maybe on a weekend day in the a.m.) to check it out and all agreed that would be very worthwhile. The idea was raised of the MCC offering to do plantings to provide more privacy for abutters and developing a plan for addressing invasive plants there. It was also suggested that estimates should be obtained for the plantings as well as for a reflection bench. In addition, there was discussion about collaborating with the Historical Society concerning the history of the area, including learning about a former mill site. The trail/bench, etc. could be a project for 2023.

**-Farmers' Market MCC Table: Sign-up Sheet for 8/20, 9/10, Handouts** – Carissa and either Patrick and/or Matt could do 8/20. Sue W. offered that 8/13 could be available for an MCC table, too, and Patrick and Lynn thought they could be available on that date. Carissa and Lynn will plan to be at the MCC table on 9/10. Carissa has developed a handout on invasives which will be available, and Matt put together a handout about the Town Forest. Patrick offered to pick up glossy paper at Staples for the flyers and all agreed that would be great. He will then be reimbursed by the MCC for the cost.

**-Love Your Mum Sale and Sign Up – Sept 10<sup>th</sup>** – Sue W. reported that the mums will cost \$5.75 each and 100 are being ordered. Therefore, the MCC's total cost will be \$575.00. John made a motion, seconded by Patrick, to authorize spending \$575.00 for the cost of the mums. The motion passed unanimously. After discussion, it was agreed that the mums will be sold for \$8.00 each. It was further agreed that, as in other years, the mums should be sold in front of the Grange and at the Farmers' Market. Sue W. will check to make sure that they can be delivered to both locations. Carissa and Lynn will

manage the sales at the Farmers' Market site. At the MCC meeting on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be confirmation re: who will manage the sales in front of the Grange. Carissa agreed to make a flyer for the sale and that will be distributed through the usual channels.

**Additional Discussion:**

**-Town Forest (TF) Next Steps-** As mentioned above, Matt designed an informative flyer re: the TF and everyone agreed that it looks great. Sinuosity (Mariah) did send the GPS map and other related files. On Sept 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. any members of the MCC who are interested and available plan to walk the TF, following the GPS map in order to get a better sense of the proposed Conceptual Trail Design (CTD). It will be important to involve Charlie Hancock regarding whether or not any changes would be needed to the draft Forest Management Plan (FMP), or to the CTD. Joan agreed to invite Charlie to the 9/6 walk and to let Lindsey Wight from UMATR know about it as well as the Technical Service Providers (TSPs). Lindsey and the TSPs are welcome to join the walk, too. Joan will also check with Mariah about the timing of the trail flagging mentioned in the CTD.

**-Thank you to John Little and Lutz Saborowski for Bee Keeping Demo and Sharing-** Lynn and Karen reported that the event in July was excellent. Carissa brought thank you note cards which everyone signed. Gas gift cards will be included, too. There is the possibility of having another session with John in August – TBD.

**- E-mail from Hilary on Town Invasives Plan-** Hilary is an interested community member who expressed concerns about invasives. Carissa has been in contact with her and invited her to partake in planning around this issue. Hilary will try to attend the Farmers' Market on 8/20. Matt offered to do a web search re: other towns' policies/plans about invasives. All agreed that the MCC's role is to educate community members and to empower them to treat invasives on their properties.

**-Soil Test Results and Jewett Estate Town Land E-mails and Next Steps –** Carissa shared the soil test results and explained their meaning. She has scheduled a meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. with Katie Kain of U.S. Fish and Wildlife to walk the land and discuss ideas on how to best move forward. Carissa is also waiting to hear from Steve Libby of the River Conservation Program. She will invite Selectboard members to any meetings as well. These are first steps in developing partnerships as we move forward. There was also discussion about parking issues. Scott Perry emailed Carissa with insight as to the parking restrictions. Carissa then emailed Mark Brouillette who responded with additional information about parking and ground water source protection issues. Future planning and/or a site visit with Mark and someone from water supply will be forthcoming. Joan shared all of the written community feedback (as of 8/2/22) to the Facebook posts about the vision for the land. All agreed that community members had a lot of thoughtful, helpful feedback. There will continue to be opportunities for community input as the process moves along.

Sue W. made a motion, seconded by John, to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. Passed unanimously.  
Respectfully submitted by Joan Hildreth