

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
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802-326-4719 <http://www.montgomeryvt.us>
CONSERVATION COMMISSION (MCC) MEETING (unapproved draft)
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025

The meeting was held at the Public Safety Building (PSB) and was called to order by Patrick Calecas at 5:35 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Marielle Ambroch, Lynn Locher, Matt Paggi, Kip Potter, and Patrick Calecas.

Absent: Charles Snedikor, Joan Hildreth, and Cliff Loos

Visitors: None.

Additions/Changes to Agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes 09/03/25: Lynn made a motion to approve the minutes; Kip seconded. All present voted in favor of approving the 09/03/25 minutes. Motion passed.

Budget/CD Update/Treasurer's Report: No update

Events/Projects Planned:

- a. FCNRCD Flood Resilience Meeting – Wednesday Oct. 8, 2025, from 3PM – 4PM at the PSB. Joan, Patrick, and Kip plan on attending.
- b. Regional AVCC Meeting in Hardwick on Oct. 11, 2025 – Kip and Marielle plan to attend; Cliff had expressed an interest in attending as well.

Proposed/Discussion/Updates:

- a. **Town Land (TL):**
 - i. status of mowing – *Matt reported that Derek is done for the season & will submit his invoice soon.*
 - ii. status of contact with Vermont Land Trust and Vermont River Conservancy for input – *No Update. Kip will email Charlie.*
 - iii. status of information gathering re: Brownway in Enosburg/plan a visit? – *All agreed to revisit this in the Spring with a possible visit then.*
 - iv. status of availability of FCNRCD for developing L-T Management Plan - or other options. *No update, but we will discuss w/ Charlie & Dorothy when we all meet at the TL in Oct (or Nov.)*
 - v. status of provision of information to Dorothy at FCNRC (prior TL plans, knotweed grant). *In process*
 - vi. schedule walk at TL late October/early November with Dorothy, and Charlie, too, if available. *Matt will contact Charlie & Dorothy; proposed 10/14 or 10/24.*
- b. Town Forest (TF) – MRBA Community Water Walk on 9/24 – review of how it went. *Joan attended but is not available for a detailed update. Patrick noted from a conversation w/ Joan that it was a wonderful event but not well attended by the Public. Very worthwhile though.*

- c. Knotweed Project – *Kip noted that this project is moving toward contract finalization. Town must review & execute contract.*
- d. MCC Membership – *No new Board members expressed interest. But ideas to increase interest in both Board and General Membership include: (i) Send a message on the MCC ListServ, and (ii) Post a notice on the MCC Facebook page.*
- e. Logo Design Project – *Lynn noted that the 8th graders had to change the date & need to reschedule.*
- f. Tree for MES 2025 Graduating Class – replacement of tree – *Patrick will search for a Montmorency Cherry tree.*
- g. Farmer’s Market – MCC presence – *Cliff, Marielle, and Patrick attended. Even though the weather was beautiful the FM was slow, not just for MCC, but for all vendors. A few raffle tickets were sold, however.*
- h. Brochure for MCC – *No major update. Waiting for a high-resolution JPEG before printing any quantity.*
- i. Raffle – drawing of winners. *The raffle tickets for the following individuals were pulled at random and were contacted immediately thereafter. M. Pulsifer selected the bat house ; M. Navarra selected the large print of Jay Peak; and C. Navarra received the smaller print from the top of JP. Again, all were contacted, and arrangements were made to deliver/pick up the prizes. The MCC sold \$200.00 in raffle tickets. Patrick will get these funds to Erin (town treasurer) to deposit into the MCC DDA.*
- j. Ideas for Future MCC Projects/Events
 - a. Projects – *For both projects, it was agreed to focus on the TL and Town Forest. Table both projects until 2026.*
 - i. bird houses for TL – assess need, making and installing – collaboration with others.
 - ii. game cameras at TF/TL to capture wildlife activity – idea of applying for AVCC or UMATR grant.
 - b. Events –
 - i. Elliot offered to do a free workshop in the fall – interest, ideas for topic(s) – *The board agreed to postpone any new event (table) until 2026.*
 - ii. Showing of the film “The Celebration: Exploring Vermont’s Wild and Scenic Rivers” – pick date options to run by UMATR/MRBA – late fall 2025 or spring of 2026? *As the film is showing at Jay Peak soon, it was decided to postpone this event until late-winter/early-Spring (i.e., decide at the March 2026 meeting).*
- k. UMATR Community and Municipal Grants – TF bridge? Game cameras for TF/TL? *Kip indicated that the application period was live. He will get with Joan to update and resubmit the grant application from the last round.*

Lynn made a motion, seconded by Marielle, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patrick Calecas