



Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 26, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
Community Room, 43 Bombardier Road, Milton, VT 05468
In Person and/or Via Zoom

Members Present: Laurie DiCesare, Tim Cunningham, Joseph Duquette, Steve Mitchell, Bonnie Pease, William Pikul, and Bonnie Whitlock.

Members absent: Colin Santee

Staff Present: Kris Dulmer (Tree Warden/MCC Liaison); Cassandra LaFayette (Town Planner).

Public Present: N/A

I. Call to Order

W. Pikul called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

II. Agenda Review

W. Pikul added two items: Tiny Grants & Farmer's Market

III. Approval of Minutes from the April 28, 2026

Conservation Commission meetings were approved.

Motion: Steve Mitchell

Second: Joseph Duquette

Vote: Motion carried unanimously..

IV. Public Forum

No public comments.

V. Business

A. Green Up Day Final Numbers: Final Green Up Day collection totals were reviewed and submitted to Green Up Vermont. Members discussed unusual items collected during cleanup efforts and noted that volunteers were able to mulch around the fruit trees.

B. MCC Selectboard Presentation (May 4, 2026): Joe Duquette, Tim Cunningham, and William Pikul attended the Selectboard presentation. Members felt the presentation was well received and provided updates on Conservation Commission projects, including the Tiny Grant submission.

C. Town Forest ADA Trail Viewing Platform Updates: Repairs remain outstanding prior to project completion. William reported that he has not yet heard back from Timber & Stone regarding lowering the railing.

D. Milton Pond Discussion: Members reviewed reports from John Bartlett. Bonnie Pease provided an overview of the situation and discussed current conditions. The Commission noted that there appears to be minimal danger at this time.

E. Milton Town Forest (MTF) Kiosk Panel Signage and Map: The kiosk project continues to move forward utilizing the recently awarded Tiny Grant. The kiosk posts will be 6x6 timbers installed in the

ground. Steve will coordinate ordering the signs. Poulin Lumber will invoice the Town, and mounting brackets may be purchased through Ace Hardware.

Tim Cunningham requested consideration of additional signage along Ritchie Avenue, to go alongside GMP's new signage.

F. Vinyl Stickers for MTF, Lamoille Riverwalk, and Eagle Mountain: The Commission reviewed updated vinyl sticker designs incorporating Selectboard-requested changes. Members supported moving forward with ordering the stickers. Steve will coordinate the order.

G. MTF Kiosk Tiny Grant Award and Build Design: William reported that the Commission was awarded an \$800 Tiny Grant for the kiosk project. William thanked Bonnie Whitlock for her assistance with the grant application and project development.

William signed the grant paperwork, and Chris Taylor also signed. The Commission discussed next steps for construction and implementation.

H. MCC Project List Review, Prioritization, and Point Persons: Steve presented an updated, color-coded project list organized by conservation area and park. Tim suggested prioritizing projects based on public safety. Laurie suggested assigning project numbers to improve tracking and organization. William reviewed and established project priorities.

The Commission identified the following priorities:

1. ADA Trail erosion repair and drainage improvements (Lead: William Pikul)
2. Lamoille Riverwalk bridge area improvements, including consideration of rerouting the trail rather than replacing the bridge (Lead: Bonnie Pease, with support from Brian and Tim)
3. Hoyt Lookout signage at Eagle Mountain (Lead: Steve Mitchell)
4. Relocation of Eagle Mountain signage (Lead: Bonnie Whitlock)

Members also discussed obtaining approximately one truckload of small, crushed stone to address erosion concerns on trail switchbacks. Similar material was used successfully during previous trail maintenance efforts.

Steve agreed to continue maintaining and updating the project list as projects progress.

I. Milton BioBlitz (July 25–26, 2026) Update: Laurie reported that three naturalists have committed to leading nature walks and activities during the BioBlitz.

Shirley Zundell, naturalist and birder, will document bird species at Sandbar State Park. A graduate student from Middlebury College associated with the Vermont Mycological Society will participate during the broader BioBlitz observation period from July 18 through August 2.

Cassie reported that Hannah from Recreation has been assisting with advertising and social media promotion.

Volunteer needs and event logistics were discussed:

- Saturday, July 25, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. registration and activities at Bombardier Park East Pavilion.
- Bonnie Whitlock and Joseph Duquette volunteered to assist with registration.
- Laurie may also assist with registration activities.

- Sunday, July 26, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. activities at the Milton Grange.
- Sunday, July 26, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. participant recognition and awards.

Laurie requested volunteers to assist with Sunday activities and reported that Colin has been asked to help tally iNaturalist observations and determine prize winners.

Kris offered to assist with prizes and donate maple syrup. Laurie also requested wooden name tags for Commission members and volunteers for use during the BioBlitz and future events. Kris and Steve agreed to investigate options. Purchases must be invoiced by the June 23 meeting.

The Commission discussed purchasing appreciation gifts and participant prizes.

Motion: Allocate funds for BioBlitz appreciation gifts and participant prizes, including gift cards for walk leaders and participant awards.

Moved: Tim Cunningham

Seconded: Laurie DiCesare

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Note: Meeting notes reference both \$325 and \$350 as the approved amount. Final amount should be confirmed prior to approval of these minutes.

J. MCC Updated Member Photo: The Commission discussed scheduling an updated group photograph. Cassie will coordinate the ordering of tee shirts featuring both the Conservation Commission and Town logos. Members will identify a mutually beneficial date for photographs.

K. Treasurer's Report: William reviewed Commission finances and ongoing project expenditures.

William reported constructing five benches from surplus materials, which will be installed in conservation areas and parks. The Commission discussed approximately \$400 in decking materials needed for upcoming projects. The Commission also discussed purchasing pressure-treated decking materials through Poulin Lumber.

Motion: Approve the purchase of pressure-treated decking materials through Poulin Lumber.

Moved: Steve Mitchell

Seconded: Bonnie Pease

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

L. Staff Updates: Vivian has recently started in her position, joining as Planning & Zoning Officer.

M. Nature Notes: Members shared recent observations and experiences.

- Bonnie Pease shared highlights from recent outdoor adventures.
- Laurie observed a turkey in Jenkins Field near her home.
- Kris photographed a sphinx moth and observed its wings expanding after emergence.
- William shared a story about his wife rescuing a squirrel.

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Tim Cunningham

Moved: Steve Mitchell

Seconded: Joseph Duquette

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

All documents pertaining to this meeting may be viewed using the following link:

https://miltonvt.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/TownOfMiltonFilesFolders/IgB8qTbZD8ECSINGDkulBiMBAWDWSVN1MIfSsd_CbRnSdPE?e=98cDys

Minutes recorded and submitted by William Pikul

APPROVED
MINUTES:

William Pikul, Chair

Date

Milton Town Clerk

Filed this day with the Milton
Town Clerk's Office.