



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Type:..... **Special Meeting**
Date:..... **June 15, 2023**
Time:..... **6:30 p.m.**
Place:..... **Community Room**
Address:..... **43 Bombardier Road, Milton**
Contact:..... **(802) 893-1186**
Website:..... **www.miltonvt.gov**

MEETING MINUTES

Dan Gaherty, Chair William Pikul, Vice-chair Laurie DiCesare, Clerk Bonnie Pease, Member Pamela Sandoval, Member Kris Dulmer, Milton Tree Warden & MCC liaison, Jenna Tucker Eugair, Director of Recreation

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Dan Gaherty at 6:35 p.m.

2. Attendance:

Members Present: Laurie DiCesare, Dan Gaherty, Bonnie Pease, William Pikul and Pamela Sandoval

Members absent: None

Staff Present: Jenna Eugair (Milton Recreation Director), Kris Dulmer (Tree Warden / MCC Liaison)

Public Present: Holly Godfrey

3. Agenda Review: No additions to the agenda.

4. Business:

A. Milton Town Forest (MTF) ADA Trail Project:

1. Wetlands Permit Extension: Dan said Planning and DEI Director Cymone Bedford received the wetlands permit extension which will be good for 5 years (until 2028).

2. RFP: The RFP for the project was sent out.

3. Contractor Pre-bid Site Visit (June 15, 2023): The four potential bidders who attended were:

- a. Spectrum Property Management
- b. All Seasons Excavating
- c. East Shore Excavation, and
- d. J. Labrecque, LLC.

Bonnie and Dan walked with the bidders from the parking lot to the first bridge and down to the proposed site of the viewing platform. William asked if the bidders had any concerns. Dan said we will need culverts for the run-off in wet areas. Dan said we also asked for an alternate bid in case the Town is willing to transport the stone from the parking lot. Timing: Bids are due by June 30, 2023 at 2:00 PM in the Planning & Zoning Office located at 43 Bombardier Road Milton, VT 05468. We will open the bids on July 3 and review will take place in early July. We will make a decision by July 7.

Bonnie suggested we close the parking lot during construction. We may also use some volunteer hours on the project.

B. Formation of MCC Working Group: Pamela sent us a "Fact and Information Gathering & How to Increase Participation" sheet. She will do an online survey of Conservation Commissions and will ask how other groups attract and maintain volunteers. Pam and Holly Godfrey, who is interested in volunteering for hands-on projects, walked the MTF and talked about recruitment ideas. Dan asked

about liability. Jenna will send us a copy of the waiver the Town asks volunteers to sign for work projects.

C. Bombardier Park Trail Blazes: Bonnie and Brian Pease spent 3 days working with Jenna and Ben on removing the old plastic trail markers and painting blazes. Jenna handed out a draft trail map that includes a link trail to the base of Cobble Hill.

D. Trail Maintenance: MTF Westside Trail: William said he will be available Monday afternoon to work on the puncheon. Kris and Dan offered to help him. The 6x6s are in place. Holly offered to help with the decking. Lamoille Riverwalk: Some maintenance is needed. Benches: William said we plan to install these in August at sites to be determined. Supplies: Bonnie suggested we buy supplies before our MCC budget times out (June 30.) William MOVED that we use the remaining \$1,386.03 of our FY 2022-2023 MCC budget to buy the required materials for installing two benches. Bonnie SECONDED. All APPROVED. MOTION PASSED. William will go to Poulin Lumber to buy the supplies.

E. Select Board Resolution (June 5, 2023): The Milton Select Board offered a resolution of thanks to Dan Gaherty for his 15 years of service with the MCC, including 7 years as chair. The MCC members thanked Dan for his diligent and sustained service over the years.

5. Staff Update: Jenna says Amanda Costello, who processes our Minutes, will be going on maternity leave soon.

6. Nature Notes: Pamela showed us photos of ant frass at Bombardier Park. Dan said he saw House Wrens nesting in his unused Burlington Free Press tube. William found two Swallows nesting in the extendable part of his camper. He released them so he could close the camper. Laurie spent the week-end in Springfield, VT photographing a few Odonates between showers. Bonnie has been seeing Viceroy Butterflies and Common Whitetail dragonflies. Kris has been seeing many Viceroys around his home. Holly saw two painted turtles laying eggs near the Milton Pond spillway. She also found Spotted Salamander eggs at a dried-up vernal pool. (Laurie offered her pond as a new home for them.) She also saw a hummingbird in her garage.

7. Approval of Minutes: Laurie MOVED we accept the amended Minutes of May 23, 2023. Pam SECONDED. All APPROVED. MOTION PASSED.

8. Adjournment: Bonnie MOVED that we adjourn. Laurie SECONDED. All APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie DiCesare, MCC Clerk

APPROVED MINUTES:

_____ Date: _____
Dan Gaherty, Chair

Filed with the Milton Town Clerk's Office on this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST: _____, Milton Town Clerk