

DRAFT

Meeting Minutes for the Montpelier Conservation Commission

Montpelier City Hall, City Council Chambers
Wednesday, October 23, 2019
6:30 P.M.

1. Called to Order at 6:35 pm. Brenna Toman (taking minutes), Jamie Bates, Page Guertin, Michael Lazorchak, Phyllis Rubenstein, Charlie Hohn present.
2. Minutes: no official minutes from last meeting. Phyllis will look into Robert's Rules for whether members who were not present at the previous meeting may vote on minutes.
3. Public Comment: No members of the public present.
4. Lake Champlain Sea Grant Montpelier Green Infrastructure Walking Tour with Colin Brown: UVM student creating walking tour of Montpelier green stormwater infrastructure. 3 confirmed locations, possible connections through Hubbard Park will be explored. MCC will research additional locations options (Caledonia Spirits, Blanchard Brook group, etc.) Colin is looking for extra funding for printing (possible AVCC grant or MCC \$) and help with distribution of maps. The MCC is interested in hosting a walking tour for the public starting at the VSECU rain garden using the guide.
5. Montpelier Parks Department Short- and Long-Term Goals with MCC with Alec Ellsworth: Possible conservation/trail easement opportunities that MCC may support.
 - Conservation Fund:
Brenna will meet with City Council to revive the Conservation Fund Committee. Funds could be used as part of a match for the larger LWCF grant due next fall.
 - Holding Easements for the City
MCC will explore possibility of holding easements for the city. Brenna will get info on how Stowe does this. Alec is looking for possible partners (TNC, VLT, Trust for Public Land, etc). The short-term plan is to create an 8-foot wide stone-dust shared path from VCFA to U-332 and would require 4 to 10 landowners to donate an easement.
 - Geoff Retirement Party
Fundraiser for trail easement. Party is January 9th and will feature a pie auction.
 - Alec's role as Liaison

Alec will attempt to attend every few meetings and will be in the loop for our emails. He will update MCC with city/parks news regularly. We may find an AmeriCorps member to help with some duties, like posting minutes to the web.

6. AVCC Update
Phyllis attended the AVCC annual meeting. There was a lot of valuable info on organizing, which is applicable to the MCC currently. AVCC requests MCC to post accomplishments on their web page (rain garden!). AVCC has small grants available for little projects. Phyllis will contact Monica to speak at the November meeting to help us with MCC organization.
7. VSECU Rain Garden Update/Budget
\$399 from drainage pipe will be paid through MCC. There is \$560 left in the grant budget for maintenance. There will be a spring work party.
8. Confluence Park Update: next meeting. Looks like some landscaping has already been done in this area.
9. Natural Resource Map Plans: next meeting- Page will get in touch with Carolyn Grodinsky, who is working on it.
10. Revised Logo
Phyllis made a motion to approve the new logo. Brenna seconded the motion. The motion passed. Jamie will send the logo to Colin for the walking tour pamphlet.
11. Adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November @20th at 6:30pm.