

Morristown Conservation Commission

September 16, 2020

Attendees: Ron Stancliff, Jim Pease, Dave Stevens, Richard Sargent

August meeting minutes were not approved as there was not a quorum of attendees.

Chairman's Report:

Ron attended the Stowe Land Trust annual meeting at Joe's Pond in Morristown. The land trust has about \$6 million in assets. The trust is interested in preserving the Shutesville Wildlife Corridor. The Valcour Farm project is still in the works. The group took a hike of the trails around Joe's Pond.

The MCC will consider donating about \$1000 if needed for the Valcour Farm project.

Old Business:

Bryant Pond Road storm damage:

The repair is needed above the gate on Town land washed out by the 2019 Halloween storm. Lipsky does not have the equipment to do the repair. Ron will contact Shorty Towne, Gary Audy, Lovell and Grimes for estimates for the work. The repair is expected to be \$5000-\$10,000. We need to maintain the road to the log landing for access to the TF property and possibly it could also provide access for handicapped hunters.

Clark Park:

No news.

New Business:

Sonny Demars has built a trail on his farm property adjacent to the Bishop Marshall School. He believes a trail is or could be built from Morristown Corners Rd to Bridge St. The trail would cross the above two owners as well as Village land and land owned by the Lamoille Family Center. The trail could connect with the recreational trails built on the Hirschak/Ice Rink property. He would like us to get involved with promoting and building the trail. We would need to talk to all the landowners involved. Ron has started discussion with Floyd Nease at the Family Center. Dick will ask Todd about the trail rights that have been preserved on the Hirschak property.

Ron would like us to write articles in the News & Citizen that promote the MCC. He will talk to Kristen about it and prepare a draft. We need more publicity and members.

Ron and Jim met with the Planning Council about the proposed Elmore Ridge 10-acre zoning proposal. The PC was not supposed to take testimony at the field hearing. Marc Cote who owns affected land but lives in Elmore was the most vocal in opposition. One landowner was supportive. The PC voted not to consider the proposed zoning change.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Respectively submitted, Jim Pease, Secretary.