Morristown Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes for
August 30, 2009

Members Present:	Steve Rae, Gert Lepine, Dick Sargent, Kevin Lane, Ron Stancliff
Members Absent:	Jim Pease, Brent Teillon
Guests:	None

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

The first order of business was the review of minutes from the July 2009 meeting. Following review, Dick motioned that we accept the minutes as written. Ron seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

Then came the report from the co-chair. Gert raised questions regarding Water and Light's ownership of land in Zack's Woods – such as "Is the State considering buying some of this land?" And "Is some of the land in Wolcott?". Dick said he'd refer these questions to his son – who is a Village Trustee.

Steve's report included the following:

- VT River Conservancy (VCR) – We've been notified of VRC's upcoming auction / fundraiser
- VT League of Cities and Towns is hosting a seminar on stormwater run-off on September 17th
- VT Land Trust is holding it's Summer Celebration at Jasper Hill's cheese cellars on September 12th
- The *Stowe* magazine had a feature on Joe's Pond
- Molly's Bog – Representatives of the Nature Conservancy and UVM will meet with us on September 24th to discuss recent activities on this land
- Trails – We receive a letter from Heidi Krantz who is a board member of VT Trails and Greenways Council noting that the Morristown Trails Committee is not a member and suggesting that the Trails Committee consider membership.
- Zoning – At a recent meeting, the Select Board decided to accept the Planning Commission's recommendations for retail (accessory retail only) in the Business Enterprise District

Next on the agenda was discussion of issues related to Trails. Tim Scandale, chairman of the Recreation Committee, has requested suggestions for projects his Committee might undertake. Kevin suggested some signage on the Duhamel property which describes allowed uses, etc. Following discussion, it was agreed that this suggestion would be forwarded to Tim.

The next item scheduled for review and discussion was deed restrictions or easements on the CREW parcel. (Ron would like to have a correct understanding as items come before the Development Review Board.) Dick had not yet renewed the appropriate documents.

Next, the Commission discussed guidelines for investing the money in the Conservation Commission Fund. To facilitate discussion, Steve distributed a document he had drafted.

Consideration included safety, yield, liquidity, and administrative overhead. Overall, there was a high level of approval for and support of Steve's draft. Kevin volunteered to research some alternatives prior to next month's meeting.

Then the Commission discussed "old business" – with the following items offered for discussion:

- Meeting with UVM/Nature Conservancy regarding Molly's Bog – Steve will invite Heather Furman (Stowe Land Trust) to the meeting. Whether this will be our "regular" meeting still needs to be determined.

- Re the Taylor / Coshoff property - Steve received and reviewed a copy of VRC's requirements. Also, it was suggested that a copy of John Lepinski's inventory of rare plants in Terrill Gorge be available at the 9/24 meeting as it might be of interest to the Nature Conservancy.

For "new business" – Ron is beginning to plan a clean-up of the Joe's Pond property – tentatively scheduled for October.

At 7:20, Gert motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Ron seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Lane