

Morristown Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes for
April 20, 2006

Members Present: Gert Lepine, Steve Rae, Amy Walker, Jim Pease, Kevin Lane

Members Absent: None

Guests: Ron Stancliff

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

The first order of business was the review of the March 2006 minutes. Following review, Amy motioned that the minutes be accepted as written. Gert seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

Then came the report from the co-chair, with Steve offering the following:

- Lake Lamoille land – The Vermont River Conservancy (VRC) contacted Steve to let him know that they are working with the seller's representative to see if the listing of the property (as "for sale") can be delayed. Jim reported that Water & Light would like to see the property conserved but is not willing to provide any financial support.
- Steve will follow-up with Dave Crawford regarding an email account for the Conservation Commission so that Amy can work on the business cards.
- Steve and Amy will attend the VT Association of Conservation Commissions annual meeting on April 22, 2006.

Next the Commission reviewed Green-Up day preparations:

- The signs were distributed to members for posting locally.
- The banner will be strung across Brooklyn Street near the Catholic church. Amy was authorized to spend approximately \$40 to purchase the necessary rope.
- Sign-up sheets, bags, and the "coverage map" are at the Town Clerks.
- Joyce / Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District (LRSWMD)) will provide a tent.
- Gert will provide a table.
- Signs – Jim will print ; Kevin and Jim will set-up and take-down.

Then the Commission discussed the upcoming Community Forum:

- Jim will print maps (showing roads and water) so that attendees can indicate areas where development is desirable / undesirable as well as areas that might be desirable for conservation.
- Amy will order 20 trees that the Commission will give away to attendees.
- Steve will email a copy of the survey used at the 2003 Forum on Conservation / Trails for review and comment (with the goal of reducing the survey to 1 page)

- Then the issue for generating interest / participation in the event was discussed – with options including phone and/or direct mail. Steve motioned that the "Commission do a mailing to select groups with a cover letter and survey, asking the recipient to return the survey to the Forum or return via mail in advance of the Forum ; with the mailing occurring during the 1st week in May." Kevin seconded this motion. Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Kevin will draft the letter. All commissioners will offer thoughts on the survey. Kevin and Amy will handle printing, mailing, etc.

Next, Ron asked to comment on a "shortcoming" in the Town's zoning – lack of protection for deer and habitat. Kevin (a former Planning Commission member) noted that the Bylaws have sections which address deer-yards, critical habitat, and groundwater protection, and questioned whether the problem lies with the bylaws themselves or the manner in which they are interpreted / enforced (by the Development Review Board).

Then, Steve and Gert noted that they will meet with representatives of the Stowe Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, and a landowner to discuss the possibility of conserving a unique piece of land.

Steve offered Commissioners the opportunity to discuss "any old business" and "any new business". No items were offered for discussion.

At 8:20 PM Amy motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Gert seconded this motion and the meeting was so adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Lane