

Mary Ann Wilson

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Subject: Conservation Commission - April 2004 Minutes

Morristown Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes for
April 15, 2004

Members Present: Kevin Lane, Gert Lepine, John Lepinski, Jim
Pease, Steve Rae

Members Absent: None

Guests: None

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

The first order of business was the review of the March 2004 minutes. After review and discussion, Gert motioned that they be accepted as written. Jim seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

Next, Steve and Jim discussed the "phantom" \$700 in the Commission's account relating to water quality testing. Jim said that he had reviewed the records, determined that the money is not "real" (i.e. we do not or should not have an "extra" \$700 in our account), and that the balance is attributable to the fact Eileen Toomey has not billed the town for her services.

The Commission then conducted its annual elections with the results summarized as follows:

- Naturalist – John was nominated by Gert. The nomination was seconded by Jim and passed unanimously
- Treasurer – Jim was nominated by John. The nomination was seconded by Gert and passed unanimously
- Scribe – Kevin was nominated by Gert. The nomination was seconded by John and passed unanimously
- Chair– Steve was nominated by Gert. Jim seconded this nomination and nominated Gert for co-chair. The commission voted unanimously to have Steve and Gert repeat as co-chairs.

Steve then gave a brief oral report of the annual Vermont Association of Conservation Commission (VACC) meeting – which Steve and John attended. Steve's impression, reinforced by John, was that the meeting emphasized wildlife corridors and inventories ("know what is in your town"). It was also reported that the State Fish & Wildlife Dept. indicated that they will be hiring a new position especially to be a liasion for town Conservation Commissions.

Then, the Commission turned its attention to Green Up Day preparations, with the following aspects being

discussed:

- Posters – Each Commissioner accepted responsibility for placing a few (of the limited number of available) posters at prominent locations after securing the necessary permission. Sites for additional placements, should more posters become available, were discussed, including Brooks, Centennial Library, Thompsons, Bees Knees, PJs, Caplans, Green Mountain Sports, Peoples Academy and the Laundromat. On April 30th, Steve and Kevin will remove the Posters and convert them to “directional” signs.
- Sign-up Sheet – Steve distributed a draft sign-up sheet. The commission reviewed that effort and could offer no improvements. Steve will deliver copies to the Town Clerk.
- Refreshments – Gert informed the commission that everything is under control
- Library – The Library has asked the Commission if they can share our space at the Trombley Hill Recycling Depot on Green Up Day for the purpose of selling raffle tickets (with the grand prize being a quilt). After discussion, the Commission decided to grant approval for this request.
- Green Up Day duty – John will be out pounding the pavement (covering Washington Highway, Randolph Road (between Washington Highway and Fitzgerald Road), Fitzgerald Road, and Lower Elmore Mountain Road), Steve and Gert will be at Trombley Hill by 8:30, and Kevin will report to the Oxbox by 7:30 to redirect any participants who are unaware of the new configuration.
- Additional Publicity – Steve will work with Amy Kolb-Noyes to have a notice published in the *News & Citizen* and will also submit an entry to the *Vermont Journal*.

Due to the length of the discussion regarding Green Up Day preparations, the discussion of Guidelines for the user of the Conservation Commission Fund were postponed. However, it should be note that Steve distributed a copy of the Randolph (VT) Conservation Commission’s Guidelines to stimulate the discussion on this matter.

Next, Steve informed the Commissioners that an individual has approached the Commission about the potential donation of a conservation easement on a piece of land. The commission discussed pursuit of this matter and decided to proceed given the individual’s familiarity with the process, the ability to learn about easements, the fact that it is a donation, and that it may offer the Commission an opportunity to begin working with the Stowe Land Trust.

At 8:37 PM, Kevin motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Gert seconded this motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Lane