

Morristown Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes for
February 18, 2010

Members Present: Steve Rae, Dick Sargent, Jim Pease, Kevin Lane,
Ron Stancliff, Brent Teillon

Members Absent: Gert Lepine

Guests: Leon Whitcomb

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

The first order of business was review of minutes from the January 2009 meeting. Following review, Ron motioned that they be approved as written. Jim seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

The next scheduled item was review of minutes from the November 2009 and December 2009 meetings. A draft of the minutes from the November was reviewed and discussed. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting following clarification of a few items.

Then came the report from the co-chair – with Steve reporting:

- Town Report – This edition of the Town Report accurately represents the Commission.
- Wetlands – Steve invited Bill Rossmassler (LCPC) to attend this meeting to learn about the process and benefits of a Wetlands Inventory.
- Multi-use Path – The development of a multi-use recreational trail connecting Stowe and Morrisville is being considered. Bill Rossmassler suggested that the Commission partner with the Planning Commission on this initiative. The Select Board has expressed support for the concept of such a trail.
- Current Use – Steve is contacting Billy Coster – VT Housing and Conservation Board – to learn about changes to Current Use that are being considered.
- Planning - The Planning Commission (PC) presented a tentative boundary for the Airport Zone – a boundary approved by the Select Board. Additionally, the Select Board indicated they have no current plan to extend infrastructure to the airport.
- The Catamount Trail sent the Commission information about trail.
- The Commission was contacted by a Cambridge VT group regarding collaboration on Green-up day and the Morrisville Spring Games.

Wetlands Inventory - The next item on the agenda was a presentation by Arrowwood Environmental regarding Wetlands Inventory. Staff from Arrowwood was unable to attend due to travel complications. However, Arrowwood had sent a list of VT Towns for whom they have performed similar work and a *pro forma* "Technical proposal for the identification and evaluation of wetlands" for our review. The Commission reviewed and discussed these materials, agreed to research funding, and to invite Arrowwood to attend our March meeting.

Multi-Use Recreation Trail - Then the Commission discussed the proposed Multi-Use Recreation trail connecting Stowe and Morrisville. Bill Rossmassler indicated that it would

be beneficial for this initiative if the Trails Committee was supportive of the concept and willing to be involved. Following discussion, it was agreed that we are willing to do so.

Leon Whitcomb expressed the hope that motorized vehicles would not be allowed on the trail.

Planning - Next on the agenda was Planning. The PC is reviewing zoning bylaws for the portion of town which surrounds the airport and is considering creation of an Airport Zone. Steve suggested that the bylaws provide some protection of Prime Agricultural soils. Following discussion, Steve volunteered to draft a letter for review at our next meeting which encourages protections similar to those that are in place in the Business Enterprise District.

Membership - Jim's term expires during this calendar year. The Commission invited and encouraged him to volunteer for another term. Jim will make a decision prior to our next meeting.

Town Meeting - The Commission reviewed plans for the display table. Ron will have photos and materials of the Joe's Pond parcel ; Jim will prepare a montage of conservation projects that have been facilitated by the Commission.

Green Up - The Commission agreed to coordinate this event in 2010.

Old Business - No items of "old business" were offered for discussion.

New Business - Items discussed for new business were

- The Commission has a CD coming due. Following discussion, it was agreed that we'd roll these funds into a one year CD with Union Bank.
- VT League of Cities and Towns is sponsoring a seminar of "Data Resources for Comprehensive Planning". Steve is interested in attending. The attendance fee is \$45 / person. Ron motioned that "we provide funding for Commission members who would like to attend". Dick seconded this motion - and it passed unanimously.

At 8:13, Ron motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Brent seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Lane