

Morristown Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes for
February 16, 2006

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

Members Absent: Jim Pease

Guests: Ron Stancliff

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:53 PM.

The first order of business was the review of the January 2006 minutes. Following review, Gert motioned that the minutes be accepted as amended by a single suggestion from Steve. Amy seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

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

- She visited an individual who owns land, on which rare plants grow, near Joe's Pond to discuss the possibility of a conservation easement. The landowner knows that the is special and has had it surveyed. Gert will continue the discussion and inform the landowner about conservation easements.

And Steve reported the following:

- He received an email from the Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences (VINS). VINS is hosting an amphibian education session in Lamoille County and is looking for a volunteer to help facilitate this event.
- He has yet to follow-up with Morrisville Water and Light regarding the land adjacent to Lake Lamoille which is for sale (but will do this month). Steve noted that he had been in contact with Jim Ryan from the VT Agency of Natural Resources (VT ANR) Water Quality Division and realized that we must be able address the issue of who holds title to land as well as any conservation easements. Amy volunteered to do some research into this issue.
- The Cambridge Conservation Commission recently received a grant to inventory the town's natural resources and Steve wondered aloud if we should do the same.
- The VT Association of Conservation Commissions has tentatively scheduled it's annual meeting for April 29, 2006.

Next on the agenda was a discussion of Green-Up day.

- Steve noted that the Commission is now correctly listed as the event coordinator for Morristown in the State's records.
- Gert volunteered to organize the refreshments.

- It was noted that the banner hung at the corner of Main & Portland needs to be anchored with weights so that it does not get twisted in the wind.

For new business, Gert voiced her opinion that the Commission should make annual donations in the amount of \$1,000 to both the Stowe Land Trust and the Vermont Land Trust. Time did not permit discussion of this matter, but additional concepts to consider relative to this suggestion that were offered include:

- Learning about different types of membership that these organizations may offer
- Understanding whether or not it is possible place stipulations upon donations, thereby guaranteeing that the money be used in a certain manner or for a specific purpose

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Lane