



November 20, 2025

Attendees: Jerry Throne, Nancy Dunavan, Sandra Zebal, Hilary Warner, Brent Teillon, Pamela Stanyon  
Members absent: Chris Espejo  
Guests: Lisa Zinn, Ron Stancliff, David Durand, Peter Bourne

Meeting opened at 5:03 pm

November meeting minutes were approved on motion by Pam Stanyon and second by Nancy Dunavan.

Public Comments-None

### **New Business**

1. **Discuss Lisa Zinn application to fill vacancy:** MCC members interviewed Commission applicant Lisa Zinn about her qualifications. David Durand has also completed an application of interest.
2. **Letter of support to VT Dept of Housing and Community Development for Municipal Planning Grant to the Town for Asset Inventory and Capital Improvement Plans.** Town is applying for this grant with Johnson. Motion made by Pam to approve the letter Jerry wrote supporting the grant application and forward to Town. Second by Hilary. Approved unanimously.
3. **Town application for Recreational Trails Program Grant:** Jerry reported that Town is submitting a pre-application (due 11/21) for a grant that will help identify and inventory existing trails, identify possible connections between existing trails, engage the community, prioritize projects, and start mapping. The grant would pay for a professional trails consultant and include training volunteers to collect data. If awarded, work on the grant activities would occur 7/13/26-12/31/27.
4. **Recap of important points from 10/11/2025 Regional AVCC meeting:**
  - a. Reviewing our Forest Management Plan
  - b. Importance of a Natural Resources Inventory in some form- this is part of our bylaws and would help identify special places in town
  - c. Fostering relationships with other organizations such as LCPC, Conservation District, etc
  - d. Demonstrating to Selectboard how we help them and the Town
  - e. Restoring flood plains, supporting the Flood Safety Act
5. **Discuss possible revisions to Pie Day marketing materials:** Nancy, Sandy and Hilary met to discuss plans for MCC table at Pie Day. At the next MCC meeting they would like the full MCC to review and approve all of the materials that have been created thus far (2 posters and a brochure). The tri fold conservation brochure is being rearranged by our volunteer graphic designer, with slight changes to text, for review at next meeting. In addition, Sandy has expressed the need for a Town map that shows conserved properties. Hilary has scheduled a meeting with Alec at LCPC on 12/3 to work on this.
6. **Other:**

- a. Brent announced that the Pollinator Pathway group is sponsoring "Garden Design for Pollinators" Saturday 1/17 at library. Brent made a motion that we co-sponsor this event and contribute \$100 toward the speaker's \$400 fee. Motion seconded by Sandy and carried unanimously. Brent will offer this Town meeting space to the group if library isn't large enough.
- b. At our next meeting there will be a discussion about filling the recently vacated secretary position.

## Old Business

1. **Vision and strategic plan coordination with bylaws, revise and schedule workshop:** Pam reviewed by-laws to make sure the draft strategic vision is aligned with them. We agreed the next strategic planning workshop should occur after we fill existing commission vacancies to ensure a more robust process. Sandy reported that last night's presentation at the library about Civic Health was excellent and discussion ensued about how we might keep an eye on what this group is doing and collaborate.
2. **Request Selectboard approval of non-voting student member:** the high school principal has reviewed and approved the student MCC member position description. Jerry will contact the Selectboard to see about having the topic put on their agenda for discussion and approval.
3. **Discuss 1/4 cent which will be available soon:** Treasurer's Report: Brent reported that our total current balance is \$68,632.19 which includes the 1/4 cent (\$29,180) approved by voters in March. The money is allocated as follows: \$30,967.66 in a money market account and \$37,664.53 in a CD. Brent made motion that we take \$27,500 from the money market and deposit into a new CD. This would put the bulk of the money in a higher interest rate investment while leaving \$3,467.66 in the money market account for spending needs. Motion seconded by Sandy and approved unanimously. Jerry and Brent will meet with Town officials to make these changes.
4. **Trails update:**
  - a. **Pizza party in appreciation of PA cross country team's contributions** to fall trail projects: Brent reported that the XC coach said the kids really enjoyed helping out. However, it is proving difficult to coordinate a "thank you" pizza party at this point due to their very full schedules. Brent asked coach Sam to think about other ways we could help/support the team going forward.
  - b. **Trails connectivity and open space meeting** with Etienne Hancock, Planning Commission chair- Hilary, Jerry, and Peter Bourne met with Etienne. Key points and recommendations discussed:
    - Need a map with layers showing trails in town, conserved properties, public lands, untaxed land
    - Need an inventory of what trails already exist including parking, trail condition, difficulty, signage, trail markers, map, user types, etc.
    - The open space lands created through conservation subdivisions need to be kept track of by someone- this seems like a job for the Conservation Commission. Hilary said that Todd Thomas had once suggested to her that the MCC do this.
    - Take steps to ensure that the Town Plan has a short and specific statement pertaining to this topic of trails and connectivity
    - Conservation Commission and/or trails enthusiasts would benefit from keeping track of proposed and underway developments and building relationships with developers to facilitate connecting trails and open space as opportunities arise

- Add VAST trails (snowmobile) to our map- they are important players and have done a lot of work

5. **Maps:**

- a. Update Town Forest trail map- tabled due to Chris's absence
- b. Digitizing of maps; Jim found Town Forest and Clark Park maps- tabled

6. **Continue discussion of bylaws modification:** tabled

7. **MCC member job description and flow diagram:** job description has been loaded to Town MCC website page. Flow diagram discussion tabled.

8. Other:

- a. **E911 mapping:** Tyler Hermanson from the Vermont E911 office has additional questions about trails in the Town Forest before adding them to the E911 viewer map. We discussed his questions and Hilary will get back to Tyler.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 to go into Executive Session.

Resulting from Executive Session: Jerry agreed to recommend to the Select Board that Lisa Zinn be appointed to the MCC.

The executive session adjourned at 6:40.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.

Respectively submitted, Hilary Warner, Interim Secretary