



August 21, 2025

Attendees: Jerry Throne, Dave Stevens, Jim Pease, Sandra Zebal, Hilary Warner, Nancy Dunavan, Brent Teillon, Chris Espejo

Members absent: Pamela Stanyon

Guests: Peter Bourne, Brent Raymond, Don McDowell, Evelyn Throne, Ron Stancliff, Timothy Strout, Martha Battle, Tommy on zoom.

Meeting opened at Town Hall at 5:00 pm

Speaker: Alison Spasyk- UVM & Lake Champlain Sea Grant and Shane Jaquith- Vermont Nature Conservancy on Flood Safety Act (H121) presented an overview of the Flood Safety Act (Act 121), explaining its watershed approach to flood mitigation through river corridor protections and other measures that will be implemented following a two-year education period. Currently Morrystown has not adopted the flood control bylaws recommended under Act 121. Resources are available on the floodready.vermont.gov website. Jerry will write a letter to the Select Board suggesting Morrystown join the flood ready program.

The July meeting minutes were approved unanimously. There were no public comments.

New Business

1. Tick borne **disease** - Brent and Evelyn. Can we alert residents about ticks and tick borne disease? Brent has a media contact and Evelyn has run a support group on this issue in another state. She could prepare a slide show for the community. Brent will report out on these activities in September. A motion was made to conduct an outreach effort on Ticks and Tick borne diseases such as Lyme. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. **Muddy Moose** - Brent summarized the activities to date with Mr. Pepe. He wants to sell the property but he is very interested in conserving part of it. The current price is 3.6 million dollars for the entire 168-acre parcel with buildings. SLT is interested in approx. 100 acres that Mr. Pepe wants to conserve and is talking with him and there are ongoing discussions after meeting with MCC this spring. SLT needs additional information. Brent asked SLT about the current LCBP grant opportunity but has not heard back. Jerry and Brent will follow up with Matt. Nancy expressed concerns about park development costs and Hilary expressed concerns about the conservation value of the property. SLT wants Morrystown involved with any transaction. It's a probability that the 100+/- acre portion of the land could be purchased and conserved by an interested party with little or no development, but it is too early to know any details.

2. **Summer Rec Camp/Town Forest visit** - 21 youngsters visited the forest and had a great time. Jerry, Pam, Brent and Fran Slaydk participated in the walk. Many plants and trees were pointed out as well as the cellar holes and the history of the area. The scavenger hunt was a big hit.

3. **Rocktoberfest** - This week's Wednesday night live was a dry run test for showing the MCC table. It was too noisy for conversations. The table for Rocktoberfest could be beefed up a little with some of the funds committed for it and Brent could add his animal pelts for touching. Sandy, Hillary, Nancy and Pam will meet and plan for the Rocktoberfest display.
4. **Nonvoting Student Member** - the draft Hillary prepared looks good. Jerry suggested that the 5 pm meeting time requirement should be flexible for students as should the 75% meeting attendance requirement. Hilary suggested we send the non-voting student member proposal to the school principal for review. Jerry will ask Brent or Don if the Selectboard needs to approve the appointment of a nonvoting student representative.
5. **Trails Committee update** - Brent is not in favor of purchasing any field equipment at this time. Volunteers always bring tools. September 6 is the next proposed workday. Brent will advertise in N/C and FPF. The PA Track team has one volunteer available now and a 15 member team later this fall if we can give them a specific task and date.
6. **Bylaws discussion** - tabled to next session
7. **Final Green Up Report** - Brent has written it and Jim will type it up and send it to the membership.
8. **Airport Industrial Park** - there has been a lot of information in FPF and N/C on this issue. At the current time the Select board is redrafting their letter to the Act 250 commission. The most outstanding concerns are the public's exposure to silica dust from the processing of stone from the hillside and the inconsistency of the rock processing with the Town Plan. Jerry and Jim are hopeful that the Select board will strengthen their draft letter on these issues. MSI feels that using water to remove dust is adequate and has made no attempt to alter their proposal based on their lawyer's submittal.
9. **MCC Website** - All updates to the MCC pages of the town website have been completed including removal of the survey discussion and the upside-down photo. There was discussion about having a way for public comment/contact on the town website and it was suggested that it not be associated with GMAIL since member addresses change frequently. Chris offered to set it up and Jerry will check with the Town to see how best to do this.
10. **Corn Roast MCC Table** - this was covered under item #5.
11. **MCC Member Description** - this was tabled until September. Any questions or concerns about the draft description should go to Pam.
12. **September 26 Special Meeting on Draft MCC vision and strategy policy** - this was tabled until September. Any questions or concerns about the draft description should go to Pam.
13. **Other** - Based on the speaker comment and discussion about flood readiness, Brent made the proposal for Jerry to send a letter to the Select board recommending that the Town adopt the recommended zoning bylaws. The motion passed unanimously.
Meeting Adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectively submitted, Jim Pease, Secretary