

Commissioners
X Dick Alderman
__ Larry Becker
__ Scott Gurley
X George Longenecker
__ Charlie Merriman
X Lee Rosberg
X Dave Shepard
Guests:
Seth Coffey
Bill Rossmassler

MIDDLESEX CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Thursday, May 5, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Middlesex Town Offices
Middlesex, VT

Minutes

7:00

1. Welcome

7:05

2. Administrative Operations

a. Approve previous meeting's minutes: George motions to approve Thursday, April 7, 2016 minutes. Dave seconds, no discussion, minutes

approved unanimously.

- b. Treasurer's report: Nothing to report.
- c. Review correspondence: New backyard woods program email – online program focused on forest stewardship for owners of > 25 acres in Washington County. Will begin June 6th and run through June 27th.
- d. Commissioner's Terms: Selectboard approved terms during their last meeting.
- e. Planning for Annual Meeting: June 2016 will be potluck format tentatively to be held at Shady Rill picnic area to start at 6:00. Officer elections will be held.

7:30

3. Project Reports

- a. Middlesex Town Forest
 - i. Trail scouting report: Flag line has been extended to trailhead and lookout. Vermont Land Trust forester wants to walk forest property next Tuesday, possibly Thursday, to map trail location and assess potential issues.
 - ii. Rock property: For sale, VLT asked Dave if MCC would be interested in adding to town forest. General consensus is that it may be too expensive, possibly better if went into State ownership. Land is already in conservation.
 - iii. Steed parcel cabin: Should be public process to determine future use. Some cleanup needs to take place. Need to assess immediate public safety hazards.
 - iv. Management Plan: On schedule for revision this year. Forest Stewardship committee members have provided comments. Vermont Land Trust should be included in discussion. Bill to provide proposed schedule for revision.
 - v. Town Forest Events: Discussed potential nature hike topics.
- b. Zoning Amendments: Dave attended planning commission hearing on amendments. Most comments were relative to proposed new uses within the mixed use district. CVRPC commented that Town might want to consider adopting river corridor standards. New draft will likely be released in a few weeks, will keep an eye out and will assess if additional comments will be needed.
- c. Wrightsville Trail Work: Colin O'Neil proposed 5/21/16 or 6/4-5/16 for trail work dates. 5/21/16 will be our tentative date.

- d. Green Up Day Final Details: Lee posted sign-up to front porch forum, there has been little response. Possibility mapping tool can be developed for next year. Times Argus is looking for Green Up Day quote for paper, Lee will respond. Metal dumpster has been delivered. Town truck is scheduled to be there. Keep tally of number of bags and tires. Print out road map for people to highlight areas they cleaned up. Illegal dump site identified on North Bear Swamp road. Lee may clean it up tomorrow night, if not will contact Central Vermont Solid Waste District.
Trash drop-off Work schedule:
 - i. 9:00 – 11:00: Dick Alderman
 - ii. 11:00 – 1:00: Dave Shepard
 - iii. 1:00 – 3:00: To check with absent MCC members/other potential volunteers.
- e. Salamander Crossing Report: Dave went out to the Molly Supple Hill crossing twice, didn't observe a major amount of activity. Signs have been taken down.

- 4. New/Other Business: Discussed zoning administrator's ability to police/enforce vegetated buffer violations.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20