

Commissioners	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Larry Becker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jon Udis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	George Longenecker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lee Rosberg
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dave Shepard
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ross Lieblappen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matt Schley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adrienne Magida
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 vacant seat

MIDDLESEX CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Thursday, September 15, 2022
6:00 PM at Shady Rill Park

AGENDA

6:00 - Welcome and Socialization

6:35

1. Administrative Operations

a. Review previous meeting minutes

No meeting minutes were reviewed at this meeting. Previous meeting minutes should all be approved at this point in time.

b. Treasurer report

Ross is out of town, so no treasurer report was given. We believe that most of the new money from this year is still available to us since we have not spent much.

c. Correspondence

i. Invoice from Accura Printing

Trails committee has printed signs for the Barney Hill trail. They tested a few combinations of colors and options and have (mostly) settled on the current brown color and layout. Mitch Osiecki is working on a QR code and website address to include on the bottom corner of the sign, and would ultimately like the 911 address and GPS coordinates included as well. The committee also has some small trail marker "arrow" signs to be printed to guide patrons to the trail entrances.

On behalf of the committee, Mitch/Adrienne requested money for four signs of the above large format to mark the Bear Swamp, Upper Barnett Hill, Davey Road, and Upper Sunny Brook trails. Money would also be used for multiple small arrow signs, trail marker signs, and cedar posts for mounting. Larry reminded that the Town is tax exempt and Mitch already confirmed such with the sign production company. Trails committee officially requested \$700. The board agreed that we need to check our available fund balances and check to see which pot of money through which this could be funded - general or special projects. With those caveats in place, Jon voted to fund, George seconded the vote, and the motion proceeded unopposed.

6:45

2. Project Reports

a. Middlesex Trails Group Update (Adrienne, Dave, George, and/or Jon)

Discussion included how some folks in town don't want trails mapped and marked and signed in the wildlife management area, though trails do already exist. Trails committee focused on Class IV roads instead of larger trails like in the East Montpelier trail network because Middlesex has many more landowners with smaller parcels, so large/long trail networks are difficult to execute due to permissions.

Trails committee is looking for ideas on what to do next. Lee recommended that a shorter day hike or "little legs" trail on Chase would be nice. Suggestion made to check with Washington Electric about potential trails on their property next to Wrightsville where their land crosses from Middlesex to East Montpelier.

b. Shady Rill & Wrightsville (George, Matt)

Everyone is pleased with Shady Rill progress and the outcome of the recent bank stabilization project. Kim (local resident in attendance) asked if car access would be permanently restricted to the back side of the Shady Rill picnic area. No one on the MCC could confirm as we could not remember if this was explicitly included in the plans, but we assumed so since a goal of the project was to limit the ability of cars to park on streambanks. No progress has been made on upgrading the bathroom facilities at Shady Rill.

Wrightsville is in the process of making Collin O'Neil's job year-round. They are aiming to connect Wrightsville to more local opportunities such as trails to Mt. Hunger or U32 if possible. The MCC used to sponsor trail work days at Wrightsville - MCC wondering if perhaps they'd be open to more partnership again. Wrightsville also rebuilt the trail from the boat access to the beach after the crossings blew out.

c. Middlesex Town Forest (Ross, Dave)

No updates on the Town Forest Management Plan since Ross was out of town.

Cabin clean-up did not get very far. It was VERY gross and crew really needs to wear respirators and other PPE (perhaps even Tyvek) due to fiberglass insulation, pests, etc. May be worthwhile to look into costs for a cleanup crew rather than buying PPE. MCC members have volunteered to go again in late October or early November if we invest in proper PPE.

d. Three Mile Bridge

Three Mile Bridge has been getting mowed without us having to ask which is good. Maps are available online but they don't always show the new bridge. Adrienne recommended that Sarah (the Trails committee GIS volunteer) should add the new bridge to all of our maps.

7:05

3. New/Other Business

a. In-Person Meetings

Per our email conversation, Lee made a motion to resume meeting in person again at Town Hall with a Zoom option. Jon seconds. The motion passed unopposed. Matt is to follow-up with the Town Clerk to get us a key to the new lock.

b. Green Up Day

Jon would like to talk about Green Up Day at the next meeting. Can we get rid of the dump truck in favor of a Casella dumpster so we don't have to climb ladders; is there any available Green Up money from the State for such changes (contact Kate Alberghini)? Jon wants to talk to the Select Board and road crew about it. George said that Casella makes a lot of donations so maybe they'd be willing to help us out. Would that cost be Town responsibility as opposed to ours even though we sponsor the event?

7:30 - Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

DRAFT