

**TOWN OF BRISTOL, VERMONT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
9 JUNE 2016
AT 6:00 P.M. HOLLEY HALL, BRISTOL VT**

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Ken Johnson (KJ), Chair; Pete Diminico (PD) Vice-Chair; Katie Reilley (KR), Clerk; Kristen Underwood (KU); Randy Durand (RD)

ALSO ATTENDING: Gabe Andrews, UVM Graduate Student, resident; (later) Tom Wallace, resident.

- I. Call to order.
Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m.
- II. Public comment period.
- III. Addition of items to the agenda.
Tom Wallace requested on 9 June 2016 to be added to agenda.
- IV. Approval of minutes of 12 May 2016.
RD moved that the minutes of 12 May 2016 be approved; PD seconded; approved by all.
- VII. New Business (taken out of order)
 - A. Flood Resilience Master's Project: request from Gabe Andrews to be put on agenda to discuss his project on the New Haven River watershed.
Gabe is a UVM graduate student in the Field Naturalist Program working with Steve Libby of the Vermont River Conservancy. He will be working in the three towns of the New Haven River watershed: Lincoln, Bristol and New Haven. He explained a two stage approach: (1) a cultural component where he will be collecting stories from residents in the three towns who have stories to share about the river; and (2) focus on an individual site in each of the three towns where he can present a "layer cake" of information beginning with the geologic record and progressing through the human present, addressing how the past has influenced what we see today. As Gabe explained: he wants to show that we don't live next to the river, we live with the river.
Gabe requested that the Commission send any stories or storytellers his way.
 - B. Tom Wallace addressed the Commission with a request that the Commission look at possible improvements to the town's stormwater discharge system or at some of the proposed stormwater improvements that might remediate the erosion on his property. Tom's property (the Creamee Stand on West St.) has suffered from heavy stormwater flows from storms that have been problematic and he's concerned that the next big storm could inflict significant damage to his property, with much of the stormwater coming from the town infrastructure. The Commission will investigate the DEC Stormwater Infrastructure Mapping Program to see if, and how, it addressed the situation with Tom's property, and will get back to him.
- VI. Old Business
 - A. Green-Up Day: Saturday 7 May 2016: final report from RD & DR.

Many thanks to Randy and Dave Rosen for taking on the Green-Up Day work effort.

- B. Green Stormwater Infrastructure: Vermont Community Fund Grant; potential projects.
Nothing to report at this time.
- C. Bristol Village tree inventory: Follow-up coordination Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program; discussion of Bristol Urban Forest Preliminary Management Plan from Claire Tebbs.
Randy explained the process at this point: the draft Preliminary Management Plan, which the Commission has already received, should be reviewed by the Tree Advisory Board (not yet established) and then sent on to the Selectboard once the Management Plan is in its draft Final Plan form. The Selectboard then has the opportunity to make changes, and adopt the plan if they so approve.
- D. Saunders River Access: update; Fuller property maintenance
Kristen had forwarded an email from Ben Gabos of the Natural Resource Conservation Service requesting assistance from the Commission in getting volunteers to assist with the invasive species maintenance on the Paul Fuller property just downstream of the Saunders River Access parcel. Federal support from the CREP has now run out for this property, and there isn't a readily available source of funding for hiring a contractor for invasives maintenance. Ben was looking for volunteers to assist in the effort. Tentative schedule for the work is June 25 and/or July 9.
- E. Conservation Commission membership: update.
No new information or recommendations.
- F. South Street Historical Walk: update.
No updates.
- G. Sycamore Park: Phoenix King Proposed Eagle Scout Project: update.
Ken has not heard further from Phoenix King. Remove item from agenda.

VI. New Business

VII. Other

VIII. Next Meeting Schedule and Agenda

A. Next meeting: Thursday, 14 July 2016

B.

IX. Upcoming events

X. Adjournment

KU moved that the meeting be adjourned; RD seconded; approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.