

**TOWN OF BRISTOL, VERMONT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
AT 6:00 P.M. ON
THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2015
AT HOLLEY HALL, BRISTOL VT**

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Ken Johnson (KJ), Chair; Pete Diminico (PD) Vice-Chair; Katie Reilly (KR), Clerk; David Henderson (DH); Kristen Underwood (KU); Randy Durand (RD); Devlin Rutherford (DvR).

ALSO ATTENDING:

- I. Call to order.
Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.
- II. Public comment period.
No public present.
- III. Addition of items to the agenda.
No new items.
- IV. Approval of minutes of 13 August 2015.
RD moved that the minutes of 13 August 2015 be approved; PD seconded; approved by all.
- V. Correspondence
Emails related to Old Business.
- VI. Old Business
 - A. New Haven River project proposed by Sonia DeYoung, focusing on the New Haven River Watershed, funded by Vermont River Conservancy: updates.
Sonia DeYoung completed her camping tour of the New Haven River in New Haven, although she could not use all the interview material due to grant restrictions. She may be looking to get additional information from sources such as Front Porch Forum.
 - B. Stormwater Infrastructure: stenciling project with Stever Bartlett of the New Haven River Anglers; updates.
Stever Bartlett has set up the stenciling project to be started on September 26th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The group will meet in the Rite Aid parking lot. The rain date is Sunday Sept. 27th, at 2 p.m., same place.
 - C. Green Stormwater Infrastructure: On-going discussion regarding stormwater management.
No additional information at this time.
 - D. Vermont Geological Survey bedrock mapping of Bristol and South Mountain Quadrangles; update.
Pete will follow up with Therese Kirby regarding distribution of costs.
 - E. Bristol Village tree inventory: Follow-up coordination Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program; updates.

Elise Schadler is in the process of setting up the training for municipal staff and interested parties at a tree stewardship workshop regarding tree care best practices. The tentative date is Oct. 10th. Claire Tebbs from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission will be working with the Commission this fall to develop a strategic plan for management of public trees. Both activities are part of the Memorandum of Understanding signed last year between Bristol and the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program.

- F. **Saunders River Access:** maintenance of plantings.
The Oct. 10th date established for the New Haven River Anglers to work with the Conservation Commission to maintain the plantings from last year and to transplant new saplings is in conflict with the tentative training for tree stewardship workshop. The Commission will need to coordinate event so that people can participate accordingly.
- G. **Bristol Historical Society:** coordination on New Haven River historical kiosk.
Kristen talked with the Historical Society regarding moving forward with the historical trail Kristen had discussed with them along South Street and the New Haven River. It was decided to table the planning until next year. Kristen thought she might explore other collaborative efforts such as UVM, Bristol Downtown Core, etc.
- H. **Sycamore Park:** on-going discussion about erosion of the river banks.
Pete related that the large rip rap was not yet in place. He will follow up with VTrans to finalize treatment of the river banks. Also, there had been some vandalism of one of the picnic tables: Pete and Devlin will sand the graffiti off the table.
- I. **Eagle Park:** maintenance work.
Pete and Devlin will also sand off the picnic table to improve the condition. Other work has been done on the flower beds and surrounding area to keep the Japanese Knotweed under control.

VII. New Business

Pete raised the question as to whether or not the Commission wanted to explore another Vermont Institute of Natural Science raptor presentation. The consensus was that this is a good demonstration, but every other year is sufficient frequency.

Dave Henderson said he had been contacted by someone who was concerned about the Wild Parsnip in Sycamore Park. He will contact this person regarding typical control procedures (normally cut in early summer).

Randy had two maps, produced by Kevin Behm of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, that showed the New Haven River. The intention is to create a map that shows interesting locations along the river for people who are visiting from out of the area. After discussion, Randy said he will contact staff he knows at Mt. Abe who might be interested in creating maps for use by the Conservation Commission.

VIII. Other

IX. Upcoming events

X. Next Meeting Schedule and Agenda

A. Next meeting schedule: Thursday, 8 October 2015.

XI. Adjournment

DH moved that the meeting be adjourned; KJ seconded; approved by all.
Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.