

**TOWN OF BRISTOL, VERMONT  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD  
AT 6:00 P.M. ON  
THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2015  
AT HOLLEY HALL, BRISTOL VT**

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

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Richard Butz, resident

- I. Call to order.  
Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m.
  
- VI. Old Business (taken our of order)
  - A. Green Stormwater Infrastructure: Discussion with Richard Butz regarding stormwater management and his proposed project at the corner of Main St./East St. and Mountain St.  
Mr. Butz discussed his proposed project to install a stormwater control system adjacent to his property on East Street in Bristol. The system includes two parts: a strip grate that catches water as it comes down his driveway; and a catchment that receives stormwater from the roadside and the grate. The catchment is proposed to be 4' wide by 6' long by 4' deep, which would be filled with sand and gravel. The purpose of the catchment is to capture stormwater, then allow infiltration of the stormwater into the soils surrounding the catchment.  
Mr. Butz has already discussed the project with Pete Bouvier, Bristol Road Foreman, and has presented a request to the Selectboard to approve the project. He was hoping to get the support of the Conservation Commission to strengthen his proposal. After discussing the details of the project, PD moved that the Conservation Commission support Mr. Butz's efforts to move forward with the simple water catchment system and request that he provide additional information on design and costs; DR seconded; approved by all. Ken will send an e-mail to the Selectboard in support of the project.
  
- II. Public comment period.  
Richard Butz, resident. See above.
  
- III. Addition of items to the agenda.  
None.
  
- IV. Approval of minutes of 10 September 2015  
Minutes tabled; inadvertently not sent out to Commissioners by Clerk.
  
- V. Correspondence  
Emails related to agenda items; Selectboard minutes.

VI. Old Business

- A. Green Stormwater Infrastructure: Discussion with Richard Butz regarding stormwater management and his proposed project at the corner of Main St. and Mountain St. See above.
- B. New Haven River project proposed by Sonia DeYoung, focusing on the New Haven River Watershed, funded by Vermont River Conservancy: updates. No new information.
- C. Stormwater Infrastructure: stenciling project with Stever Bartlett of the New Haven River Anglers; update on stenciling project on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>.  
The stenciling project was a great success: over ten volunteers labeled 60 catch basins/drains. Stever Bartlett had very thoroughly organized the work to be done, and treated the volunteers most graciously. Many thanks to Stever, the New Haven River Anglers, MC Ski Team and the Conservation Commissioners who participated.
- D. Vermont Geological Survey bedrock mapping of Bristol and South Mountain Quadrangles; update.  
Pete will report back on the division of payments to VGS for the mapping.
- E. Bristol Village tree inventory: Follow-up coordination Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program; Tree Stewardship workshop Sat. Oct. 10; updates.  
Randy explained that the workshop being held this upcoming Saturday is a one day event that is held every year in different parts of the state, with this year in Bristol. It will be held in Holley Hall from 8:30 to 4:00, open to all. The theme is “healthy trees, healthy communities”.  
Another event will be held Oct. 22, which is part of Bristol’s involvement with the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program. This workshop is for municipal staff and other appropriate individuals for training in tree care best practices. Therese Kirby is coordinating the attendance list.
- F. Saunders River Access: maintenance of plantings.  
This Saturday, October 10, 2015 members of the Conservation Commission and possibly other volunteers will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Saunders River Access to transplant some willow saplings along the riverbank and in the riparian zone. Kristen will contact Stever Bartlett to solicit some volunteer assistance.
- G. Bristol Historical Society: coordination on New Haven River historical kiosk.  
After much coordination it was decided that next year would be an appropriate time to move forward on the historical trail on South St. It is likely that the Historical Society will do the research for the project, and the Conservation Commission will organize the construction. This item is on hold until further notice.
- H. Sycamore Park: completion of riparian treatment to reduce erosion of the river banks.  
The VTrans contractor has finished up the bank treatment just downstream of the new VT Route 116 bridge. Commission members have been watering the newly planted trees, but will not need to continue doing so, given the weather forecast for rain in the upcoming days. Pete praised the quality of the work that was done.
- I. Eagle Park: maintenance work.  
At the request of a visitor to the site, the access to the picnic table will be cleared for wheelchair access, to be done Saturday, 10 October.

- J. Maps of recreational access area along the New Haven River, focusing on Town-owned parcels.

Randy explained that he had spoken with the Mt. Abe Art teacher (Mr. Babbett), and that he will consider incorporating the mapping into his class in the second semester of school.

Put back on the agenda in January.

VII. New Business

- A. Organizational Meeting and Election of Officers.

After discussion, DR moved that the current slate of officers stay until next year; RD seconded; approved by all.

There was discussion concerning the listing of personal e-mail addresses on the Commissioners List, which is available on the Conservation Commission website. Some members had concerns that their personal e-mail would be accessed by scam organizations that sell e-mail addresses. Personal telephone numbers are also available, so people could call a Commission member rather than e-mail them.

DR moved that the e-mail addresses be removed from our Commissioners List; DvR seconded; 6 voted aye, 1 nay.

VIII. Other

- A. Pete added that he is still concerned about moving forward with rain gardens, and using Conservation Reserve Funds to encourage participation by the public.
- B. Kristen told the Commission about an upcoming opportunity to increase municipal share in state/federal grants if zoning regulations are adopted that disallow development in river corridors.

IX. Next Meeting Schedule and Agenda

- A. Next meeting; Thursday, 12 November 2015

X. Upcoming events

XI. Adjournment

DR moved that the meeting be adjourned; PD seconded; approved by all.  
Meeting adjourned at p.m.