

**TOWN OF BRISTOL, VERMONT  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD  
AT 6:00 P.M. ON  
THURSDAY, 9 JULY 2015  
AT HOLLEY HALL, BRISTOL VT**

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

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Stever Bartlett, Sonia DeYoung

- I. Call to order.  
Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.
- II. Public comment period.
- III. Addition of items to the agenda.
- VI. Old Business (taken out of order)
  - A. Green Stormwater Infrastructure: On-going discussion regarding stormwater management; continuing discussion with Richard and Gail Butz.  
Gail and Richard Butz could not be present for the meeting and responded through an e-mail. See below.
- VII. New Business (taken out of order)
  - A. Stormwater Infrastructure: stenciling project with Stever Bartlett of the New Haven River Anglers.  
Mr. Bartlett discussed his organization's project to improve awareness of stormwater discharges into the New Haven River. The primary focus is to stencil reminders to people on the top of catch basin covers, manhole covers, etc. that say something like "Don't dump waste, Drains to the river". His organization would organize and fund the project. He would also like to incorporate an educational element by providing a doorknob hanger that describes the project. The Commission thought he might be able to involve scout groups or school groups to further expand the educational element. Mr. Bartlett said he would contact Scout representatives, Mt. Abe Environmental Club and publications including Addison Independent and Front Porch Forum. He will also check with the town regarding safety gear.  
PD moved and KR seconded that the Bristol Conservation Commission approve Mr. Bartlett's project and attend a Bristol Selectboard meeting to demonstrate BCC support.  
Kristen will contact Therese Kirby to arrange a presentation to the Bristol Selectboard.  
Dates for the project are to be determined: probably either late summer or early fall.
  - B. Presentation by Sonia DeYoung regarding a project focusing on the New Haven River Watershed, to be funded by Vermont River Conservancy.  
Kristen introduced Sonia Young, a graduate student at University of Vermont, who had worked with the Vermont River Conservancy in their application for a grant from High Meadows Fund Resilience Committee. Her portion of the application was to provide a community outreach segment which addressed local concerns about the New Haven River corridor.  
Sonia has plans to walk as much of the New Haven River as possible in the last week of July (approximate date). She will approach property owners along the river and hopefully engage them in conversation about the river. Ideally she would like to work with Addison County Regional Planning

Commission to create an interactive map with audio clips based on her conversations with property owners, as well as other interested parties who are willing to participate.

Sonia also hopes to apply for a Lake Champlain Basin Program grant in the fall.

- IV. Approval of minutes of 11 June 2015.  
RT made a motion, PD seconded, to approve the 11 June 2015 minutes as submitted. Approved by all.
- V. Correspondence  
E-mails related to items listed below.
- VI. Old Business
- A. Green Stormwater Infrastructure: On-going discussion regarding stormwater management; continuing discussion with Richard and Gail Butz.  
Mr. Butz sent an e-mail to the Commission explaining that he and his wife could not attend the meeting, so he prepared a report detailing his plans for the end of his driveway. He has spoken with numerous people about possible treatments to reduce stormwater damage. They are proposing a grated drain across the driveway, attached to a catchment box to detain the stormwater. The Commission endorsed their approach.  
Pete was pleased with their proactive interest in stormwater control, and is certain they will contact the Commission if they need further assistance.
- B. New Haven River Resilience Project: Update on The River Conservancy and the Addison County Regional Planning Commission application to High Meadows Fund Resilience Committee. No discussion: item to be removed from agenda.
- C. Vermont Geological Survey bedrock mapping of Bristol and South Mountain Quadrangles; update. Jon Kim from VT Geological Society delivered maps and back -up report dated June 26, 2015 to the town offices. The Commission briefly looked at the maps, which included the following:  
Plate 1: Bedrock Geologic Map of the Town of Bristol  
Plate 2: Surficial Geologic Map of Bristol  
Plate 3: Wells and Borings  
Plate 4: Depth to Bedrock  
Plate 5: Hydrogeologic Classification of Well Logs  
Plate 6: Surficial Aquifer Potential  
Plate 7 Well (Bedrock) Yield map for the Town of Bristol  
Plate 8: Map that Constrains Recharge, Discharge, and Generalized Groundwater Flow Directions in the Town of Bristol  
Materials will be available at the Town Hall for review.
- D. Bristol Village tree inventory: Follow-up coordination Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program; Tree Inventory update; mulching discussion.  
Randy thought there would be materials for review next month.
- E. Conservation Reserve Fund: on-going discussion on expenditures and balance; policy/mission statement. Item to be taken off the agenda for now.
- F. Conservation Commission membership: on-going discussion. Item to be taken off the agenda.

- G. **Saunders River Access:** maintenance of plantings.  
Plantings, and area in general, appear to be doing well. There is a significant amount of young aspen saplings, as well as sycamores. Kristen will organize a fall planting with Vermont River Conservancy.
- H. **Bristol Historical Society:** discussion about 18 June 2015 meeting and coordination on New Haven River historical kiosk.  
Dave Rosen, Kristen and Randy met with the Historical Society regarding the possibility of an historical trail along the river below the Village. The representatives of the Historical Society requested that the Conservation Commission give them more detailed information before they would take any action on the proposal, including evaluation of the cost, planning documents, etc, and present a revised proposal at their August 27, 2015 meeting.
- I. **Sycamore Park:** on-going discussion about erosion of the riverbanks.  
Pete contacted Emmalee Cherington of EIV Technical Services regarding the condition of the riparian zone just downstream of the new VT Route 116 bridge by Sycamore Park. There was general agreement that large riprap should be placed along the eroding slope to minimize soil loss, and that trees should be planted along the bank as well.
- J. **Eagle Park:** maintenance work.  
Kristen detailed the work she has done at the park pulling weeds along the trail to the fishing ramp, and explained that it needs another hour or two at least. The picnic tables also need refinishing. Additional work such as adding more mulch could be done, but in general, the site is doing very well.
- VII. **New Business (none)**
- VIII. **Other**  
Pete mentioned that the Federated Church [actually the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church] might be looking for support from the community for opening up the area north and east of the church to better access the river.
- IX. **Next Meeting Schedule and Agenda**  
A. Next meeting: 13 August 2015.
- X. **Upcoming events**
- XI. **Adjournment**  
DH moved that the meeting be adjourned; RT seconded; approved by all.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.