



Town of Stowe Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes March 25, 2024

A regular meeting of the Conservation Commission was held on Monday March 25, 2024, at 5:30 pm in the Memorial Room of the Stowe Town Office.

Members in Attendance: Jacquie Mauer, Kay Barrett, Catherine Gott, Phillip Branton, and Zach Lewis.

Staff in Attendance: Sarah McShane

Others in Attendance: Rick Dwyer (FPR)

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chair J.Mauer at approximately 5:30 PM.

Public Comments & Adjustments to the Agenda – No public comments. J.Mauer added that she would like add discussion of a tiny grant application and move discussion of finalizing the Sterling survey questions first. Members agreed.

Review of Meeting Minutes – (To be reviewed at next meeting.)

Sterling Forest Management Plan- Survey Questions

Members discussed the draft survey questions. K.Barrett will make the suggested revisions and will email the final version to staff for distribution online and mailed to identified surrounding property owners. On a motion by C.Gott, seconded by P.Branton, the Commission approved the revised survey questions. The motion passed unanimously.

Tiny Grant Application

J.Mauer shared information on VT Association of Conservation Commissions Tiny Grant application and passed around a draft proposal for educational signage for Sterling Forest. The grant deadline is April 5th. Staff reported that the Selectboard would need to approve the submission of the application and with the timing of regular meetings, there is not sufficient time to submit a grant proposal this year. She suggested the Commission consider an application next year and if it is a priority of the Commission in the near term, the Commission could use funding within the Conservation Commission budget.

Meet with AMP Forester Rick Dyer

The Commission met with AMP Forester Rick Dyer of Forests, Parks, and Rec. He shared his professional experiences working with loggers and best management practices to prevent erosion and protect water quality. Members discussed culverts, trail maintenance, and AMP's for before/during/after logging jobs. Following conversation, members thanked R.Dyer for his attendance.

SHS Project Update

Z.Lewis provided an update on potential projects at Stowe High School. He mentioned possible project ideas including tree planting, riparian planting, green up day, etc. He will look at potential project sites at the high school.

Project Updates

Members briefly discussed recent legislative activity in Montpelier. The Bear Aware banner is presently hung over Mountain Road. C.Gott shared bear awareness educational information on front porch forum. K.Barrett cannot attend the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 22nd.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 PM

Submitted by,

Sarah McShane