

Approved Minutes – May 27, 2014

Present: Joanna Cummings, Roel Boumans, Fritz Tegatz, Mel Huff, Mariana Dubrul, Bob Hyams

[Minutes are missing information from the discussion with Karen Bates.]

Minutes: April minutes approved with one change. Discussion about process of following subdivision reviews. Bob says we have a policy that was developed with the VLCT. He sent it around for review. Joanna suggests that we might assign one person to follow whatever happens in a given month, rather than to follow a specific project.

Frogbit: schedule: There are several organizations that are taking a week each. Conservation commission week will either be the week starting July 6th or 13th. Holly and Howard are each going to organize a day. Third day is Selectboard Sunday!

Subdivision review: Joanna takes this month, Bob moved, Fritz seconded, all approved.

Roel: habitat map presentation on data gaps. What parts of the areas of HPV are we mandated to consider when commenting on subdivisions? What data is out there that can supplement the habitat map? VT Nat Resource Atlas... How will the checklist data (filled out by conservation commission members) be folded into our map? First collect data from existing other maps, then ground truth at site visit and update habitat map with more accurate & up to date info.

iNaturalist: Charlotte Conservation Map: can be populated now. Discussion about use of this new data stream: need to make sure that it is clear that this is part of commission's advisory map.

Roel: Addison fracked gas pipeline: through edge of Cornwall swamp (potential recharge area for Charlotte water). Peaceful demonstration to be planned. Roel will send out date. Monkton Conservation Commission is arguing against the plan. Can the commission have a statement against the plan? More to come.

Bob: Eco restoration program for water quality... phosphorous, nutrients, surface waters...landscape sources (not point source). Tactical basin plans with 10k-75k\$ grants for riparian restoration...trees for streams. Want to submit grant with conservation commission, with April Moulaert, Bob. Cons Comm would receive grant. Bob and April would write grant and perform the work. Also, the Intervale conservation nursery. Approximately 5 acres, stable streambank, private landowner. Fritz supports, Mariana seconds all in favor.

Karen Bates: More water from roads or ditches means more erosion due to higher water volume in the streams/ditches. Erosion releases phosphorous. Flow from tiled fields can be very high in soluble P.

The conversation with Karen Bates continued for one hour regarding water quality issues in Lake Champlain, and how the town of Charlotte could consider projects that address stormwater and agricultural runoff, among other projects.