

# CHARLOTTE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

---

*Mariana Du Brul, Robert Hyams, Gary Pittman, Holly Sullivan, Fritz Tegatz, Howard Verman*

## **Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday July 24, 2012 7:00-9:00 pm Town Hall

**In attendance:** Mariana, Bob, Gary, Holly, Howard

**Guests:** Patrick O'Brien, Joanna Cummings

### **Review Minutes**

Reviewed April, May minutes: April minutes approved, May minutes approved with edits.

### **Conservation Currents (Holly)**

We are on schedule for submitting articles. The last article, submitted by Fritz was credited to Holly in the byline. Bob is up this month.

### **Town Plan Update**

(Fritz, Bob) Looks like PC is coalescing around the idea of a major rewrite. To do so, they are planning to ask for a one year extension from voters ( new plan would be up for adoption March 2014), and are looking to their consultant to write all the text. This gives the PC time to revise the format, and everyone time to gather their input. Holly suggested that the CCC holds a separate working meeting to begin formulating our input. We would need to consider the areas where the current plan falls short; a short list may include road maintenance and ditching, surface water protection, invasive plant control on town lands, right of ways, and on private lands.

### **Subdivision Review**

Kiley (Gary, Bob); In sketch plan. This parcel has core forested habitat, Charlotte Land Trust interest as well. We had commented on this proposal in a pre-application consult.

(ATTACHED) Site visit will be held August 2, 5pm. NEED TO ASSIGN COVERAGE

**Beldock:** Patrick O'Brien, in representing Beth and Greg Beldock, presented plans for a three lot subdivision on a parcel located east side of Spear Street, north of the LaPlatte River. This application will be before the PC on August 16. We have not assigned a member to cover this application, will have to consider what additional input we can provide (if any), while keeping with town agreed protocols and open meeting laws.

### **Town Sign Competition**

(Howard)The votes need to be tallied, decision will be in the hands of the SB. Howard also expressed his optimism regarding the accommodating nature of the sign maker.

**Town of Charlotte, 159 Ferry Road, P.O. Box 119, Charlotte, Vermont  
05445**

## **Town Farm Bay Protection**

(Mariana/Holly) We have finalized landowner letter, Bob will print and send out to with supporting document to 7 adjacent landowners.

## **Updates**

Bloom follow-up (Bob) - videos are in hands of 3 area educators (could send to more), library has copies. Still need to make display for library, and talk to teachers as the school year approaches.

Thompson's Point public access (Holly) - SB is looking to create a committee to address issues surrounding the upgrade of public access. We confirmed that it would be appropriate for CCC to play a supporting role, but SB and Rec Comm should take the lead.

250th celebration update - Looks like good weather for the CCC sponsored paddle to Town Farm Bay and the T/K wetlands.

Trails revisited - Bob expressed concern about the Trail Committee's trail map, indicating a loop through Burns Woods. The concept of the Town Rec Path following the edge of the woods had been circulated and agreed upon, there had never been agreement on a trail through the woods, which are valued for their clayplain characteristics and documented rare species.

Commission Membership - Current membership stands at 6, with 3 seats available. We would like to thank Joanna Cummings for attending the meeting and expressing interest in joining the Commission. We believe that she brings a suite of skills and interests that will complement our current work and commission make-up.

## **Nature Notes**

Many Great Egrets in Converse Bay, notable sightings of Pileated Woodpeckers and Scarlet Tanagers (chasing wasps in the garage). Curiosity has been expressed regarding the Charlotte Bear(s).