

- open meadow, stream, view of Camel's Hump, etc.)
- Roman asked if ranking conserved land in Huntington would be a useful exercise
- Sally will organize numbers to present at the next meeting
- It was concluded that the scenic sampling is 1 tool out of many that the HCC uses to evaluate land conservation
- Do we have similar ways to evaluate other criteria of the Conservation Fund (eg., agricultural land, wildlife, wildlife corridors, wetlands, endangered species, natural communities, etc.)?
- Margaret will look into available GIS layers for the next meeting and Wally will send Margaret the list of criteria for the Fund
- The soils maps provided by the extension service may be more accurate than state soil maps

HCC Annual Retreat follow-up

- The retreat was held at Alan's house on Saturday, October 2
- Laura will type up the list and send to commissioners
- Wally asked commissioners to prioritize the various topics discussed at the retreat
- It is now known that a friend of Dave Brautigam's is buying the LaBounty land and closing this month
- Wally followed up with the Bret Hamilton and was told that they are gearing up for a busier winter
- Jim Hildebrand is head of the Energy Committee
- Wally told them that the HCC would like to collaborate on working on an energy plan for the town
- Wally will continue to talk with Jim
- Would it be possible to have both an Energy Fund and a Conservation Fund? No one wants more taxes, but we are facing serious energy issues. Can we develop a plan for how money can be used and sell this idea to the public (1/2% of taxes go to Energy Fund?)
- Wally's discussion with the Energy Committee: there are 2 ways to deal with energy issues – through education or a top-down approach
- Conducting energy audits doesn't necessarily mean that the business or household will follow through – a more integrative approach is necessary
- The overall goal is to conserve energy – can we pool incentive information?
- Margaret thinks there is a general effort to disseminate incentive information (i.e., VELCO's newsletter).
- The top-down approach would be to influence legislation.

FYE2012 budget

- Wally sent around a draft letter to the Selectboard regarding the FYE2012 budget
- Commissioners informally approved the draft letter
- Wally mentioned the legal work that may need to be completed on the Town Forest and mentioned that the Conservation Fund money can be used for public access related to conservation
- Roman had hesitations about using Conservation Fund money for this purpose because he thought it may cause the Fund to be used for town road projects, etc.
- The FYE11 budget spending to-date was sent to Margaret by Ed Wildman and disseminated to the commissioners, who found some discrepancies (e.g., salaries)
- Margaret will talk to Dan Stoddard about funding discrepancies in the budget

Town website

- Laura will locate the original statement of the HCC's mission and send around – this will be included on the HCC link
- What other links should be contained within the HCC website?
 - Conservation Fund application (make sure it's the correct link)
 - Scenic inventory methods (convert to pdf)
 - Ag Producers Guide
 - Forestry Producers Guide
 - State of the Forest report
 - Flood erosion hazard studies
 - River corridor plan
 - Maps link
 - Huntington E. coli monitoring
 - Annual reports
- Laura disseminated some other VT Conservation Commission websites and commissioners generally liked the Craftsbury website and thought the Montpelier website was too busy
- How are other commissions dealing with email and contact information? Is this posted on the website?
- Laura will email Ed and ask about commissioner terms, especially for new commissioners who filled vacant spots (eg., Steve Hagenbuch and Tyler Miller)

Other business

- Alan will post the October picture at the library with the photo contest information

Adjourn: Roman moved to adjourn at 8:05pm, Wally seconded, unanimous approval

Date unapproved minutes to town clerk: October 26, 2010
Date approved minutes to town clerk: November 16, 2010