

RECEIVED JLM  
DATE December 26, 2012

**Meeting Minutes  
Huntington Conservation Commission (HCC)  
November 14, 2012**

Meeting began 7:00pm, adjourned at 9:10 pm

**Commissioners in attendance:** Cindy Sprague, JB Bryan, Roman Livak and Margaret Fowle. Jim Sadler arrived after attending the CSWD board of commissioners meeting.

**Other Attendees:**

Suzanne Parsons, UVM student was also in attendance during the discussion of the Town Plan. Everett Marshall stopped by briefly on his way to the W/WW meeting being held upstairs.

**Cindy called the meeting to order at 7:00pm**

**Review and approve minutes, review mail**

- No minutes to approve
- Annual Report from the VLT

**Public questions and comments**

- No public questions

**HCC Clerk:**

- Roman had a draft announcement prepared by the Town Administrator for the HCC clerk position. The document was edited to include payment of approx. \$40/meeting.
- We plan on interviewing candidates during our next meeting.

**Town Plan:**

- Suzie is our UVM student volunteer to be the liaison between the HPC and the HCC. She is helping the HCC with updates to the Town Plan. Suzie attended the HPC/public meeting on 11/12/12, in which they discussed the Town Plan from the start through Recreation and Open space.
- Question about whether "Goals" should be general or more specific. Consensus was that goals should be general, but that some concepts, such as "open space" should be more clearly defined.
- Cindy had a question about the relationship between the HPC and the HCC. The HPC is responsible for updating the Town Plan and the HCC's role is to provide input on sections that they have expertise, such as the Natural Resources section.
- Suzie thinks that there should be a section on climate change.
- Another topic to consider for the Town Plan is renewable energy, such as wind, micro-hydro and solar.
- Another suggestion was to change the format of the Town Plan to include the Goals and Implementation Recommendations under the same headings as the initial discussion of the

specific topic. Alternatively, similar heading could be used in the “Goals” and “implementation” sections.

- JB suggested that goals/implementation in some sections may be in conflict with goals/implementation in another section, such as houses facing a street for aesthetic purposes, vs. orientated for solar gain. He suggested that the HCC could look for possible conflicts in the existing plan.
- Discussion on TP page 46 #18: unclear what a “corridor management plan” was. Consider rewriting this section to eliminate that verbiage and encourage riparian buffer plantings etc.
- Decided that each HCC member should review and comment on the Natural Resources section of the plan and discuss at our next meeting.

### **Current Project Updates**

- ECOS grant – a portion (\$40K of \$60K requested) was approved.
  - If MPG is not approved will have a 2K cut in field work, omission of a multi town administrator, as well as reductions in other areas as well.
  - Everett Marshall suggested that we (PCC and HCC) host an educational talk on the Natural history of Huntington, followed by an informational talk on volunteer opportunities for the ECOS grant project. Other informational talk topics include an assessment of the Town forest by the Chittenden County Forester Keith Thompson, or an ecology talk by Bob Zaino, State Land Ecologist, or a turtle talk by Steve Parren.
- Better Backroads Grant
  - Cindy mentioned that the administration of the grant is moving to a collaboration between the VTAOT and the VTDEC. This change is happening in June 2013.
  - Cindy agreed to contact Gina Campoli (VTAOT) and Kari Dolan (VTDEC) to let them know we are interested in applying for a grant for eradication of JKW on Beane Rd. and to keep us apprised of the time frame for applying for the grant.
  - Cindy also needs to follow up with Barbara Elliott to see if we have permission from to apply for the grant.

### **Other Projects:**

- CSWD
  - The herbicide issue is still a problem – insurance company does not want to pay. Costs are nearly \$1M.
  - Horse Manure is the source of the persistent pesticide (PP) issue.
  - No Lab methodology available to detect PP at low levels.

### **Winter Meeting Schedule:**

- Next meeting: Dec 18, 7pm
- Dec – Feb meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 7pm – 9pm

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:10pm.**

**Action Items:**

- Suzie will ask the HPC what role they want the HCC to take w/r to updating the town plan
- Suzie will clarify whether the HPC wants just input on the Natural Resources section, or if they want the HCC to actually rewrite this section. If the HCC rewrites the NR section, can we change the format, eg. concepts/goals/implementation under the same headings, or at least use similar heading that are used in the concepts in the goals and implementation sections.
- HCC members will review and comment on the Natural Resources section of the plan and prepare for discussion at the next HCC meeting
- Cindy will contact Gina Campoli (VTAOT) and Kari Dolan (VTDEC) re BBC grant
- Cindy will contact Barbara Elliott to see if we have Town permission to apply for BBR grant

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**Date unapproved minutes to town clerk:**

**Date approved minutes to town clerk: 12/26/12**