

## Waterbury Conservation Commission Minutes February 9, 2021

Commission Attendees: Allan Thompson, Mike Hedges, Joan Beard, Billy Vidgor, Steve Hagenbuch, Tracy Sweeney, and Krista Battles

Commission Absent: Linda Gilpin and Erin Hurley

1. Assign a Commissioner to prepare minutes
  - Krista Battles
2. Review, prioritize and modify agenda - no modifications made.
3. Review and approve minutes of the January 12, 2021 meeting
  - Mike Hedges, seconded by Joan Beard
4. Disc Golf Updates/Discussion
  - Folks have been sponsoring some disc golf tournaments, but have not been getting the appropriate permits. Organizers may not know of the requirement but additional diligence is necessary.
  - The Rec Commission will involve some at UVM in studying the interaction between recreation and environmental protection, with the hopes of developing a plan for the property that balances conservation and recreation.
  - The Waterbury Conservation Commission (WCC) should be prepared to offer opinions and guidance to the town if they move forward with developing a land use plan for this space. WCC will not play a policing or enforcement function.
  - Perhaps there is a role for the WCC to advocate for this, and any town property having a town management plan.
  - Billy Vidgor will follow back up and keep the WCC abreast as the plan develops.
5. Shutesville Hill Wildlife Corridor Partnership Update
  - Partners are excited to see the Waterbury Land Initiative (WLI) take form and are interested in working with the WLI to move forward.
  - Plan for moving forward with the WLI and the Shutesville Partnership: Working to build capacity to be able to address larger projects. The Shutesville Hill Partnership may be looking to fund and hire a coordinator, and partnering more formally with the Stowe Land Trust.
6. Callan Subdivision Application and other applications at the Development Review Board
  - Commissioners attending the DRB meetings are beginning to learn the process.
  - Perhaps we could offer some education on how to lessen the negative impact of development on the ecosystem. Maybe partners such as WLI could assist with this work.
  - **The Commission discussed possibly involving the Shutesville Hill Wildlife Corridor Partnership in the education and outreach effort but some thought the effort is best left to the Commission and Waterbury residents.**

- Tracy Sweeney to request 10-15 minutes for the WCC to share the information regarding the Shutesville Partnership work and invite them to keep the work in mind as projects are proposed.
7. Website Update
    - Folks will add ideas, suggestions, and materials to the Google Spreadsheet document.
    - Krista Battles will resend the website information and the link to the spreadsheet.
  8. Waterbury Historical Society Submission
    - Thank you to Steve Hagenbuch for drafting his thoughtful submission.
  9. 2021 Planning Process
    - a. Education Efforts to the Select Board, Planning Commission and Development Review Board
    - b. Shutesville Hill Wildlife Corridor Partnership Support
  10. Unified Development Bylaws Discussion (PUD and Subdivision provisions)
    - Select Board would be open to reviewing the development rules with a conservation lens.
    - Billy Vidgor will reach out to Steve Lotspiech to inquire if he can attend a future Commission meeting to do this work.
  11. Next Meeting
    - Consider goals for the Commission moving through 2021.
  12. Adjourn
    - Meeting adjourned 7:45pm