



Waterbury Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes

June 13, 2023 Meeting

In person and virtual

Commission attendees: Billy Vigdor, Kelsey Applegate, Joan Beard, Amy Marshall-Carney, Stacey Lambert, Marty Johanson

Commissioner Absence: Zinne Wolf, Meg Baldor

Other municipal government members: Mike Bard (Select Board)

Public: None

- Meeting convened at 6:00 pm
- Modification of Agenda: one hour of strategic planning
 - B. Vigdor proposed a motion to change the agenda to focus one hour to the strategic planning exercise. S. Lambert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - K. Applegate proposed a motion to add an item on the agenda to discuss the VECAN Municipal Climate Vulnerability Index. J. Beard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Public comments: no members of the public were present
- Minutes: S. Lambert proposed a motion to approve the May minutes as drafted. J. Beard second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Climate Vulnerability Index: K. Applegate discussed an upcoming event through the Vermont Energy & Climate Action Network (VECAN). This event could be a precursor to help the Waterbury Conservation Commission identify climate vulnerabilities within our community, such as flood-prone areas or ways that wildfires could impact Waterbury in the future.
 - The VECAN Municipal Stakeholder meeting on the development of a Municipal Climate Vulnerability Index is Thursday June 15, 2023 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm over zoom.



- Mike Bard (Select Board Liaison) Presentation
 - M. Bard is the Select Board liaison to the conservation commission and is a former Waterbury Conservation Commissioner.
 - The Select Board could use inputs from the Select Board on focus areas. The Commission could get on the Select Board agenda to give updates on active initiatives
 - M. Bard would like to see the Commission do more hands-on activities. For example, in the past the Conservation Commission cut back invasive species and hosted nature walks with the community
 - The Commission can let M. Bard know what our needs are, and can request for him to attend a meeting if we could benefit from his perspective

- Strategic planning session
 - Potential inputs and information sources for strategic plan:
 - Results of the community values mapping exercise are expected to be presented at the next Commission meeting.
 - SE Group has been contracted to consult and gather town feedback on zoning regulations and bylaws
 - Revitalizing Waterbury has a database of surveys
 - Select Board survey gathering community-wide input on how to spend ARPA funds
 - A. Marshall-Carney presented the purpose and process of proactive strategic planning
 - Objectives should be specific and attainable
 - Timeframes should consider a longer objective (3-5 years) broken into shorter goals (1 year)
 - Consensus and discipline are important elements
 - One critical input for strategic planning is the Waterbury Conservation Commission Bylaws
 - The Commissioners discussed Land Acquisition and Land Management, which may have overlap with other organizations (land trusts, Waterbury Recreation Committee, Nature Conservancy, etc)
 - Strategic Planning will continue in a future session



- K. Applegate made a motion to adjourn, M. Johanson seconded. Meeting adjourned 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Kelsey Applegate June 26, 2023