

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Monday, May 18, 2020

12:00 – 1:30 PM

Join by Web <https://middlebury.zoom.us/j/91880153974>

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MINUTES

**(Approved at June 29, 2020 meeting)**

Present: Commission Members- Jeff Howarth, Andrew L'Roe, Amy Sheldon, Molly Anderson, Monica Pryzperhart, Judy Wiger-Grohs

I. Call to Order- 12:00pm

II. Public Comments- None

III. Approval of minutes

[May 4, 2020](#)

Moved: A. Sheldon, Second: M. Pryzperhart, All present approved (M. Anderson abstained)

IV. Commission member updates

(1) Draft Creek Road Task Force Letter (Jeff Howarth)

J. Howarth requested commission input about interest in participating in the task force due to additional time requirements. J. Howarth will write a letter to the Selectboard requesting one Conservation Commission member be added to the Creek Road task force to provide input (probably

J. Wiger-Grohs). The Conservation Planning document that we're currently working on should also have recommendations for this area.

## V. Workshop: Conservation Plan

J. Wiger-Grohs brought up a recent decision disallowing Solar facility in Bennington due to conflict with existing Town Plan- illustrates the need to have a strong town plan with precise language.

J. Howarth suggested that it would be helpful to write the plan in such a way that it can be adopted into the town plan- present early first section (like Water) and present to the town planner, college professors, related professionals, etc. for feedback, to find out if it's the way to move forward or there are things being missed.

J. Howarth proposed each "Topic" (e.g. Drinking Water, Rivers/Streams, Flooding/Floodplains, Wetlands, Stormwater/Drainage) could have the following structure:

- Resources/Features
- Conflicts
  - Current conditions
  - Historical development
  - Expected/Future conditions
- Goals/Objectives
- Strategies/Actions
- Future research information needed

M. P: we could include Stormwater/Drainage in, or as a subset of ,the Flooding/Floodplains section.

A. Sheldon: we can include private wells (and septic areas) in the Aquifer section

J. Howarth- can we designate leads for each "Feature" and then contribute to others? (or we all attack one or two)- note \*Desired\* maps that could be added later

Water chapter contents and editorial leads:

- Ground Water/Aquifers- A. Sheldon
- Surface waters: (Rivers, Streams, Lakes and Ponds)- M. Pryzperhart, M. Anderson
- Flooding/Floodplains- J. Howarth
- Wetlands- A. L'Roe
- Stormwater/Drainage- J. Wiger Grohs

M. Anderson suggested meeting again in 2 weeks (but has conflict on June 1).

J. Howarth- proposed lunchtime check-in from 12-1pm on June 8, can go through template and make sure we're all on the same page.

VI. Set Next Agenda & Meeting Date

Next meeting: 12-1pm on June 8- J. Howarth will start with his section as an example to work through the template.

Motion: J. Wiger, Second: M. Anderson, Unanimously approved

Adjourned: 1:30