

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Rotary Small Meeting Room, First Floor
Alternative Location- Planning Office, Second Floor
Municipal Office Building
77 Main Street, Middlebury

Monday, JULY 22, 2019
4:30 – 6:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: Jeff Howarth, Molly Anderson, Amy Sheldon Andrew L'Roe
Absent: Kemi Fuentes-George, Judy Wiger-Grohs, Monica Przyperhart,
Minutes: Andrew L'Roe

I. Call to Order (4:30)

II. Approval of minutes

Not enough members present to vote on approving previous months' notes

III. Commission member updates

Monica Przyperhart is continuing work on mapping the community values reported at various events this spring.

Andrew L'Roe: Otter Creek Wetlands update- the Steering Group met last week, talked about what was brought up at public meetings in Salisbury and Cornwall. Generally agreed to make sure any areas proposed meet the Class I criteria, which may mean that the application isn't completed while TNC Americorps coordinator Matt Lacey is available. Andrew proposed looking at distinct portions of Middlebury wetlands complex and checking off criteria to determine which/how many are met for each- mostly pulling from existing information/contacts- some of the College lands may be best fit because of educational activities and documentation of species, etc. Molly suggested talking with Marc Lapin and other members of college Lands Committee to find out whether they have a long-term vision for their properties- she will share (with their permission).

Andrew asked whether any members are interested/planning to go to the 2019 Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions' Conservation Summit (Saturday, September 28th, 2019, 8:30 – 3:30, Breadloaf Campus of Middlebury College in Ripton, VT.) The theme is " Investing in Vermont's Conservation Future: Vermont Conservation Design " <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/conservation-summit-2019-tickets-64170914934>

Tickets are \$45 before Sept 1 (Middlebury CC is not a member of AVCC, which costs \$50- would this be possible to do/get funding for?)

IV. Work Plan discussion

(1) Geography 310 projects (Jeff's fall semester course)

Jeff Howarth presented syllabus and ideas for his course this Fall- he will be talking with Jen Murray about it next week. The course focuses on a number of analysis based on landform/cover suitability and identifying priority parcels for conservation.

(2) Web-based options to share data and information

Jeff H suggests that we work on our workplan, with emphasis on dissemination of information- possibly through website with inventory of data.

(3) Public "Conservation Conversations" for fall

Possible topics include EAB,

V. Set Next Agenda & Meeting Date

Next meeting- August 5th

Meeting will focus on thinking through what we have and where we want to go
e.g. looking at percentage of original community types and including in plan/objectives

Andrew will resend google drive link

Motion to adjourn- made by Andrew L'Roe, Seconded by Molly, unanimously agreed