

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, MARCH 25, 2019  
4:30 – 6:00 PM

MINUTES

	<p><b>Present:</b> Molly Anderson, Kemi Fuentes-George (departs at 5:15), Jeff Howarth, Monica Przyperhart, Amy Sheldon <b>Absent:</b> Judy Wiger-Grohs, Andrew L’Roe, Jennifer Murray <b>Guests:</b> Caleb Basa <b>Minutes:</b> Jeff Howarth</p>
4:45	<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>
	<p><b>Approval of minutes</b></p> <p>Approved with one correction (Arrowhead should be Arrowwood).</p>
	<p><b>Commission member updates (10 minutes)</b></p> <p>Caleb- trail easement on TAM in Means Woods – currently no easement. MALT looking for support to create easement by end of summer. Item added to end of agenda.</p>
4:50	<p><b>Ongoing Business</b></p> <p style="text-align:center"><b>Update on Otter Creek Wetlands</b></p> <p>Update from Andrew (emailed to Monica) – TNC received funding for Americorps position for Wetland Reclass Coordinator. Steering Committee created (April 1 meeting) – Andrew volunteered. Zapata will not review petition when it goes in. Cornwall CC already identified area to reclass and will send postcards to about 40 landowners. AL thinks we should contact Marc Lapin and Chris Zeoli about wetlands in Middlebury. Monica – a little concerned about taking on a regulatory project when we are still so young. Kemi – does being a part of a regional project give us cover. JH – how much do we know about wetlands in Midd? Amy – our inventory is old but it was well done (Springsteen). All – this is good motivation to focus on our wetlands inventory.</p> <p>Let’s put this on agenda for next time – a focused discussion of Midd River – Otter Creek wetlands and relationship to land owners, land use, flood protection, and habitat (with maps).</p>

5:05	<p><b>Community Values Mapping:</b> How it went and next steps</p> <p>Two events. Enthusiastic attendees but lower participation than hoped. About 20 people in Middlebury and 15 in East Midd. Monica – suggests we canvas in front of businesses. (Coop, Shaws, etc). JH – how do we know when we have sampled enough? Some discussion about Green Up day at Coop and the sampling bias this carries.</p> <p><b>Monica, Molly, and possibly Judy will hold two more pop-up events at Coop and Shaws/Hannafords</b></p>
5:15	<p><b>Water Quality Chat:</b> Promoting the event &amp; next steps</p> <p>April 15 – 5-7pm at Town  Contact – Monica to coordinate.  Flyer – hoping Kemi will step up again and design the flyer.  Refreshments – Amy volunteers to coordinate.</p>
5:20	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p><b>Future Walks &amp; Talks</b>  <b>Agree to move to subcommittee model.</b></p>
5:25	<p><b>Overview of Act 250:</b>  Amy gave presentation on history of act and how it works. Potential changes – findings and criteria around climate change and ecosystem function, appeals process, board membership/service. Originally intended to be for planning and regulation – but planning got cut out. Reorganize criteria. Forest fragmentation and connectivity, critical environments (ridgetops and river corridors).</p>
6:00	<p><b>Set Next Agenda &amp; Meeting Date</b></p> <p>Monica – won't be here next meeting as scheduled. Will be in touch about rescheduling to 4/29.</p> <p>TAM/MALT easements. No easements on Means Wood and Wright Park TAM. Will bring talking points to next meeting. Amy – why does it matter if there's no easement? TAM started because we had town land, why not say we need an easement on it. Costs of easements?</p> <p><b>Table for now – put on agenda next time around.</b></p>
6:15	<p>Adjourned.</p>