

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Natural Resources and Conservation Committee**  
**Shelburne Town Offices- Meeting room 2**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Wednesday, February 12, 2020**

**ATTENDING:**

Dean Pierce (staff), Peg Rosenau (taking minutes), Mike Schramm, Gail Albert, Bob Paquin, Fred Morgan, Jon Cocina (arrived 7:10) Sean Mcfaden (arrived 7:13)

Guests: Ruth Hagerman, Marty Illick, Kristin Balschunat, Bob Bouchard rep. Pizzigalli Properties, Mike Koch rep. Civil Engineering Assoc

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called by SNRCC chair Gail Albert at 7:05

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved By Bob, Fred seconded, all in favor

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

January 8, 2020 minutes were moved by Mike, seconded Fred, all in favor

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ruth Hagerman introduced herself. She is running for selectboard. Gave a brief background. Introductions were made and a bit about the mission of the SNRCC was shared. Ruth stayed for the water quality discussion.

**WATER QUALITY AND RELATED DISCUSSION:**

*Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (Kristen Balschunat presenting)*

Kristen gave background on national water districts. Mission to connect people to sustainable and renewable landscapes. Presented "Rethink Runoff/Stream team" initiative. The initiative is an urban water quality program in nine local towns. The towns are required to participate as part of MS4 requirements. Have a website with lots of resources for homeowners, lots of other social media, public engagement (art for awareness, rain barrel, rain gardens, water sampling, etc). Water quality monitoring since 2012. New sites are added each year- 21 right now in Chittenden Co. Have been sampling in Monroe Brook. Monroe tests very high in Phosphorus. Does not exceed in chloride but it has been trending upward in recent years. Turbidity levels are reasonable. The District has stopped measuring for turbidity. How can SNRCC assist? Share info on FPF about WNRCD resources. Encourage town to use Best Mgt Practices (BMP). Encourage DPW employees to attend trainings. WNRCD also works with farmers to help determine the best time for spreading manure, does 1-1 consults with farmers, riparian tree

plantings, tree sales. Always looking for volunteers to help. Tree planting will be done at Meach cove in May.

*Lewis Creek Association budget and water quality discussion (Marty Illick presenting)*

Marty distributed 2019 program highlights - restoration & conservation, planning and data collection, and education and outreach. Shared map of watershed. Much of the watershed tests high in the amount of Phosphorus. The map is also available on the website. Some particulars about Shelburne: lower McCabe's is now impaired for about the first mile, including phosphorus and poor biology (aquatic life support). The Winooski Water District will be working with Meach Cove to help improve this situation. Another project will happen at the Shelburne Museum. Monitoring of Laplatte is limited. But there are some trouble spots. Frogbit removal program will continue in lower Laplatte.

## **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW**

(Mike Koch/CEA and Bob Bouchard/Pizzigalli presenting)

Rice Lumber- proposed Healthy Living and Fire and rescue Station site and additional lots TBD. Proposal by CEA to divide current lots 4 and 5 into four lots: 4, 4A, 5, 5A. Proposal by Pizzigalli to divide lot 6 into two lots- 6 and 6A.

CEA Proposal: Discussion focussed on resubdivision of lots and boundary line redraw. Want to make lots more marketable by dividing it into four lots from two. No proposed changes to stormwater pond. Natural Resources conservation are: land set aside in the original plan will not change.

Pizzigalli: Lot 6 will be the location of proposed Healthy Living and new fire/rescue. Would like to split lot into two parcels, 6 and 6A. Current lot has no stormwater mitigation and is discharging into Monroe Brook. New property will be fully treated. There will be an overall reduction in impervious surface.

Dean asked about the amount of blasting that will be involved in proposed Lot 4A and Lot 5A. Sean pointed out that a boundary line adjustment would go hand in hand with an agreement to allow blasting. Dean thought that blasting would not be prevented in either approval (current or proposed). Gail asked for clarification on the current boundary. Gail had concerns about tree cutting. Bob asked if there was a version that had three lots. Presenter was not aware of any such version. Mike asked about stormwater pond- could it be underground? Soil does not allow. Sean asked about access roads for the proposed store and fire station- would they be connected. Yes. Mike asked about housing proposals for the area. This will be proposed at our next meeting. Sean asked about the location of the fire station and issues with congestion. Gail asked about utilities and stormwater systems for the two proposals- would they be shared? Stormwater would be separate on the projects (lot 6 and Lots 4/5). Mike made some comments about the many changes to the number of lots and housing units. There have been many changes to benefit the developers to increase profits, but what is being done for conservation? Will conservation area be increased? "What is in it for us?" Peg made a motion to approve the proposed lot 6 Pizzagalli Project as presented. Bob seconded. Mike asked about parking and

impervious trade-off in the project if lot six is divided. Dean explained that the overall PUD has a “budget” for such things that will not change- project is looked at in entirety. Particular locations of requirements could move place to place however. Mike expressed concern about a piece being changed without considering the whole project. Five in favor of Pizzigalli proposal, one opposed, one abstention. Discussion continued on lots 4 and 5. Committee would like to consider those lots with a presentation for the entire PUD. Dean says that there is probably information available now for a full presentation. Hopefully at the March 11 meeting. Mike asked if the PUD amendments would need Act 250 amendment review. Yes- this is the case. Sean asked about the underground stormwater system. Bob Bouchard explained how they would be flushed out from time to time- responsibility of the owner. Bioretention is not possible because of the soil types. Lot 4 and 5 resubdivision discussion to be continued at a later meeting when more information is available for the entire project.

### **CONSERVATION PROJECTS**

Ewing update. Gail reported that Al Karnatz from VLT has said that the new appraisal will cost \$2500. Should the town pay this amount? A contribution could be what is needed to bring the project to closure. It has been nine years with many delays. Mike asked about the possibility of the project falling through anyway. Dean shared that the appraisal outcome could impact the direction of the project. Gail suggested that we ask for the money contingent upon closing of the project. That we will “repay” VLT upon successful closing. Committee agrees that this strategy makes sense. Bob made a motion to recommend expenditure of \$2500 for the Open Space Fund to offset expenditures of VT Land Trust at the time that the project goes through. Jon seconded. All in favor.

### **COMMITTEE CONTRIBUTION FOR TRAINING**

Clarification of funds that were previously approved to donate to VT Association of Conservations Commissions for cost of conference attended by Susan Moegenburg (see Jan 2020 minutes).

### **CREATION OF SUBCOMMITTEES**

Gail seeking more to join the subcommittee to work on regulations (joining Gail and Don) Fred volunteered to join. Sean recommended VLCT has resources to help with draft language. Dean thinks that there might be an hourly change. There are grants however and these should be explored.

### **UPDATES:**

Stormwater: (Don not in attendance)

Animal coexistence group- meeting on Feb 13th

Regional Conservation Partnership: Dean and Gail attended. New maps will be available soon- can integrate with Sheburne maps.

Mapping: no report this month

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Dean reported that a new zoning coordinator will be starting soon (Feb 24th)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made by Jon, seconded by Bob, all in favor. Committee adjourned at 9:30