

Shelburne Natural Resources and Conservation Committee Meeting
Draft Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 9, 2018
Meeting Room 2, Shelburne Town Offices

Attendance:

Members attending: Peg Rosenau (taking minutes), Jon Cocina, Susan Moegenburg, Fred Morgan, Peggy Day. Sean Macfaden arrived at 7:25, Don Rendall arrived at 8:05

Staff: Dean Pierce, Shelburne Town Planner

Guests: CVU student observer Hannah Frasure, Chris Galipeau, presenting Kirkpatrick Project

Call to order: 7:05 PM by Peg Rosenau

Approval of Agenda: Peggy Day moved to approve, Susan Moegenburg seconded. Unanimously approved with no discussion.

Approval of Minutes: Peggy Day moved to approve April meeting minutes, seconded by Peg Rosenau. Unanimously approved without discussion

Development Review:

Kirkpatrick Project (Spear St): ___?___ presented a proposed building site with new driveway on the east side of Spear St. The lot will have to go through act 250 permitting. The SNRCC did not have any concerns and unanimously recommended approval for the project without conditions. Peg Rosenau signed a project review letter on behalf of the committee.

RAN investments project (Kwiniaska golf course consolidation). The SNRCC read over comments by ANR. Many of the topics addressed were raised by the SNRCC at a previous meeting when the project was first presented by Dave Marshall. The ANR has requested that a land use permit not be issued until further investigation of the site is performed.

Shelburne Green Revision Project PUD- very recently submitted and will likely be presented at June meeting

Update of Comprehensive Plan

Susan Moegenburg gave an update from April 26 Planning Commission meeting. The Natural and Scenic Resources and Land Conservation section has been undergoing edits by a subcommittee of SNRCC members. The most recent draft was presented to the Planning Commissioners for feedback. The Commission was generally supportive of the suggestions in the latest draft, with a few exceptions. There is still time to add suggestions to the draft. The Planning Commission would like to have all the sections in an "alpha draft" form by the beginning of June. Sean MacFaden gave an overview of the four major maps that are proposed for the comprehensive plan. Draft maps will be submitted by June as well.

Fundraising

Jon Cocina presented new ideas about how we can raise more money for conservation (Open Space Fund).

Option 1: Could we become a 503c Land Trust? This would open up the possibilities for funding outside the town. Cons/concerns: more work to set up- especially as it requires another board. Some costs would have to go to management. Would the trust hold the easements and what are issues with that arrangement? Peggy Day has experience is setting up a trust and believes that it is not difficult to set up. However, a trust can become unwieldy- merging with another trust (regional) may be a more viable option.

Option 2: have a trust such as VT Land Trust be the holder of a special fund for Shelburne. Con: VLT (Or other agency) may have to abide by their own guidelines regarding conservation priorities and these could differ from town priorities.

Option 3: 1% for Open Space (Crested Butte, MT: <http://1percentforopenspace.org/>). Voluntary Opt-in program to add 1% tax donated to open space conservation. Concerns: businesses have to register as professional fundraisers which could be complicated.

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District Request for Input:

Dean forwarded several materials from WNRCD seeking input about natural resources concerns in Shelburne. WNRCD includes Shelburne. Peggy Day suggested that it would be helpful if they came in and presented to us for we can give more targeted input. Dean will extend an invitation

Stormwater Utility Committee

Susan Moegenberg gave an update. The SUC has drawn up a draft ordinance which has been presented to the selectboard. The fees will be raised based on impervious surface coverage and parcel size for sizable properties, but residential units will generally be fixed amounts. There will be credit toward fee amount for efforts to improve stormwater runoff/infiltration on larger parcels. The flow restoration plan for Monroe brook (requiring mitigation costing approx

5 million) is on the town website. Public outreach (direct mailing, Front Porch Forum, etc) will begin in the coming months.

Conservation Updates

No new projects to report

Other Business

Dean had a question about Shelburne Bay Park and Laplatte Nature Park Mgt plans- both were approved in 2010. There is some confusion about the process for removing downed trees, particularly in light of the severe storm on May 4. Perhaps this issue should be updated/clarified in next revision.

Sean Macfaden also had some concerns about the adequacy of certain culvert capacity given the recent storm that lead to widespread flooding.

Adjournment

Peggy Day made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Peg Rosenau, unanimous agreement by SNRCC members to adjourn. The meeting concluded at 9:00.