

Meeting Minutes
Shelburne Natural Resources & Conservation Committee (SNRCC)
6:30PM, May 12, 2021
(Meeting held via Zoom Platform)

Attending:

SNRCC Members: Gail Albert, Don Rendall, Sean MacFaden, Jon Cocina, Mike Schramm
SNRCC Applicants: James Quinlan, Carole Oglesby, Christine Haines
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC): Taylor Newton

6:35 Start of SNRCC session

- Preliminary matters—Confirm audio/video and address technology questions
- Confirm minute taker – Mike taking notes
- Review and Approve Agenda – Jon moved, Gail seconded. All approved.
- Review and Approve April notes – Don moved, Sean seconded. All approved.
- Public Comment (for items not on agenda) – no public comments.

6:40 Self introduction of applicants for Peg's open position who are in attendance

6:45 Forest Block Map Development – presented by Taylor

- Preliminary threshold for forest block identified as 20 acres. This is the same threshold being considered by South Burlington.
- Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species – State Regulation, no existing local regulations
- Taylor noted that existing regulations (State and local) extend to some degree to existing forested areas around Shelburne Pond and mouth of LaPlatte river.
- Many identified forested lands are currently not under any State or local regulations, including forested lands within central parts of town.
- Sean noted the power of the mapping tool for displaying a lot of information on both the physical and regulatory landscape. Can use tool to identify what could be appropriate and feasible in Shelburne.
- Don asked if parcel boundaries are included within map tool. Taylor confirmed that parcel boundary information is included.
- It was noted that this mapping tool could likely be utilized by Town staff to inform recommendations.
- Taylor noted that State statute allows for protection of forest if wildlife habitat. Recommended that the Town consider advancing with a habitat block study, similar to what was recently completed by Arrowood Environment for the City of South

Burlington, to provide basis of assessment and ranking.

- Taylor noted that South Burlington will be the first municipality within the State to regulate forest blocks.
- Mike asked what the cost of the 2020 South Burlington Habitat Block study. Taylor to look into this and will advise. Taylor noted that this type of work could be eligible for a municipal planning grant.
- Taylor noted that habitat block study would be good next step. Would need to consider existing town rules/regulations in conjunction with any new considerations for protection of forested blocks.
- Taylor to provide memo to summarize effort in developing forest block mapping tool. He is willing to assist with ongoing questions and potential grant application, but noted existing budget limitations.

7:15 Motion to Adjourn – Jon moved, Don seconded. All in favor.