

Royalton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2018

Call to Order: 6:45 p.m.

Welcome/Introductions: Brad, Tico, Hoyt, Bushrod, Jim Goodman, VLS Town Relations Committee
Absent: Mike, David, Ian

Approval of Minutes: August 20, 2018 and Sept. 17, 2018 - both approved as written

Events: VT Conservation Design (Sept. 25)
Was a very good presentation by Jens Hilke, VT Fish & Wildlife Dept.
Based on wildlife corridor information and biofinder maps
He encouraged identifying our resources in town which may support future growth
Planning board would like our help in that regard as well.

AVCC Summit (Sept. 29)
Was based on waterways. We are thankful to have the White River Partnership in our area.

Old Business: Recommendations to SB re: Invasives (**MIKE** – can you give some guidance on this?)

New Business:

Town Plan / Energy Plan

The planning commission would like our input on and help with the town plan.
Town Plan is on the website.
Energy Plan – the Selectboard requested the RCC to help create this plan.

Tico will contact Monica Przyperhart, VT F&W, and invite her to visit and help us learn more about using the Biofinder and creating a Conservation Design plan. We spoke of inviting neighboring conservation commissions so we can have a larger overview of our area.

Green up Day

- Kerri Rogers, Recreation Dept. will continue to coordinate the Green Up Day. We will continue to support this project.
- Potential Tire removal project from Crawford property on this day.

SB Meeting Oct. 9

- Brad attended with a list of items: Tick signs Foxville Park, Foxstand river access, Gilman road river access, Sarnoff lot, Academy building, Library. Bushrod will contact Walter Hastings re: Payne's beach.
- RCC Banner/Flag
- Sarnoff Trail work day, 10/21/18 @ noon
- Recent activities: 2200 pounds of river trash came from VLS/WRP River Cleanup day. RCC was represented as well; Act 250 update VT Conservation Design; AVCC Summit; Gilman Road solar site; White River Basin Tactical Plan meeting
- Crawford Property: inventoried, plan pending for potential trail network; tire dump,
- Green Up day – Kerri Rogers
- Emerald Ash Borer
- Hunting on town property.
- Town Plan

AVCC membership / Tiny Grant

SB will renew our AVCC membership.
Tiny Grants due in April: potential grant ideas - rebuilding bridges on Sarnoff land,

Connector trail between S. Royalton school and Bethel. Would VLS look to see whose land the trail might cross?

River Trail / Dog Park Trail - High school to Paine's beach – VLS
Dog park – a VLS project

Ongoing:

CC Web site/Facebook page/email

Banner/flag Selectboard OK'd purchase banner/flag.
Hoyt will check with high school staff re: student designs
Jim Goodman will talk with VLS students for potential designs

Sarnoff Property 911 sign: 1678 Route 108 is the Sarnoff 911 address and has been put up by town
Workday – Sunday, Oct. 21: Noon to 3 p.m.
bring gloves, sturdy shoes, and any tools one needs to help create
Tico to put announcement out on Front Porch Forum
Hoyt will put on Vital Communities
Jim Goodman will make announcement at VLS
AJ Follensbee will join the workday to help us identify good trails to use. Brad will bring tractor and tools.
The town had 5 signs made up for posting on the property.

Crawford Property Brad walked property with AJ Follensbee several weeks ago. AJ will write up a management plan this winter.
They identified several potential trails to create for public use.
Brad found a useful tire reclamation program. The program requires community involvement.
Green Up day and any other community events would be a great time.
The Planning Commission has given us a list ranked potential uses for the Crawford property uses.

Emerald Ash Borer Recommendations to town/residents:
Brad has an updated map of infested areas.
Brad has a list of 9 items to do to support our Ash trees in town found on VT Invasives website.
Brad will bring these recommendations to the SB/residents at some point in the future.

Solar array projects Landfill project is going through. Signs will be put up on Sarnoff Property.
Gilman Road solar project. Many trees will be cut down from the town property. Brad stopped to talk with Green Lantern. They will leave trees by roadside to be cut up next year and donated to townspeople who need the wood.

New Vista: Properties are up for sale. Might the Town purchase any lots that would help with connector corridors?
Grants available to town for recreation.

Next meeting date: November 19, 2018, 6:30 pm (3rd Monday)

Adjourn: 8:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Hoyt Bingham, Clerk