

Mount Holly Conservation Commission Minutes

The regular February meeting of the
6:10 pm by Phil Crane. It was held in the Mount Holly Town Office. Members of
the Recreation Committee had been invited to attend. ZOOM was available in audio mode only.

In person: David Martin, Jeanmarie Fitzgerald, Phil Crane, Sue Presson, Phil Leonard, Megan
Litwhiler, Alexandra Yuster. Via ZOOM: Steve and Barbara Hazelton.

& Minutes

The meeting agenda, and also the draft minutes from January 7, were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Instead of a treasurer's report, Megan and others briefly discussed MHCC finances and the
mechanisms around authorizations and reimbursements for Commission expenses.

Organizational item

The Commission considered the question of time and place for our next meeting, given that the First
Tuesday evening in March is the culmination of Town Meeting Day. We decided that next month's
meeting should be rescheduled to **Wednesday, March 5, at 6 pm at the Town Office.**

Vermont Association of Conservation Commission

Alex caught us up on MHCC membership as approved earlier. We decided to go for a 2-year
membership at \$50 per year, and to use Alex's Post Office box as our mailing address for
correspondence involving this organization.

Energy Audits payment

Phil C. reported that, according to a conversation he had with Diana Garrow, the person who
performed the audits has been paid.

Star Lake/Recreation Committee/AARP grant application

The bulk of the meeting was devoted to discussing opportunities and planning related to Star Lake,
absorbing the Recreation Committee agenda item into the Star Lake one. Phil L. and Jeanmarie
discussed the issues involved. There is an opportunity to apply for a grant through AARP with a
"Livable Communities" emphasis and a March 5 deadline. We decided to "go for it" with a focus on
the Beach Park, emphasizing both landscaping and recreational development. There was also
discussion about the draft Star Lake Ecology Assessment and the need for a management plan. The
main features of the discussion are distilled in the **Action Items** section below.

Chit Chat

For the upcoming March issue, Sue will summarize plans discussed at this February meeting.

Action Items

- Dave to request “approval in principle” from the Select Board (subject to revocation if necessary) at next Tuesday’s meeting to pursue the AARP grant opportunity.
- Jeanmarie to begin working through the grant application, Phil L. assisting.
- Alex to check with the Community Association about their being supportive of the project, and possibly providing modest financial support for playground upkeep.
- Megan to think about/investigate liability issues, and also about making community contacts relative to the Town Beach recreational development.
- Phil L. to extend the **Star Lake Recreation Planning** document as a lead-in to securing state permits related to a lake maintenance plan.
- Sue to prepare a summary of activities in advance of the next ChitChat deadline.
- Phil C. to ride herd over commissioners as we go about the above.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MHCC will be held on **Wednesday, March 5, at 6 pm at the Town Office.**

Adjournment

As members indicated no further items, Phil Crane declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Phil Leonard, clerk.