

Town of Bethel, Vermont  
Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 4/19/22 6:30 PM  
Town Hall

Meeting brought to order at 6:30pm

Present: Emily Miller, Ferron Griffin, Mary Floyd, Lisa Campbell, Mark Heckman, Danny Dover, Ellie Griffith, Gene Kraus

1. Minutes: Minutes from 2/8/22 were reviewed and accepted.
2. Peavine Park pollinator patch update
  - a. Ferron met the folks from Bee the Change at the site.
  - b. Waiting to hear from them about next steps.
3. VOREC update
  - a. The town of Bethel was awarded a VOREC grant.
  - b. Ways for the CC to be involved:
    - i. Buyout properties:
      1. location of kiosks
      2. content of the kiosks
      3. overall map and individual maps
      4. signage (there's money for a graphic designer)
    - ii. Accessibility consult for the trail at Carla's Meadow
    - iii. Money for materials to mark trails
    - iv. Resource assessment of Quimby
  - c. Other ideas:
    - i. Could we do a feasibility study of rehabbing the old tunnel that runs from behind Babe's towards Ultramotive?
    - ii. Create a picnic spot on a small patch of land across from the Town Hall?
4. VT Housing & Conservation Board
  - a. Mary gave testimony to the legislature about the process of conserving and purchasing the land that has become Carla's Meadow.
5. Tiny Grant for birdhouse project with Rec Center
  - a. Mary has applied for a Tiny Grant and hasn't heard back yet.
  - b. Monies would cover: Birding books, binoculars, journals, poles for birdhouses.
6. Planning Commission Update
  - a. We remain concerned that the possible rezoning would encourage dispersed development and cause further habitat fragmentation, breaking up important corridors for wildlife.
7. Any other business to come before the committee
  - a. There are a few trees to come down on Peavine Park. A local Scouts group will likely take care of it on Clean-up Day. Lisa will follow up.
  - b. Gene Kraus brought a few things in front of the legislation to our attention:
    - i. Clean heat bill. Gene pointed out that this puts a heavy focus on biomass and other biofuels that have potential negative environmental impacts.
    - ii. Act 250 revisions are underway.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, 5/10/22, 6:30pm.