

Montpelier Conservation Commission (MCC) Meeting May 9, 2019 – City Council Chambers

Members present – James, Michael, Charlie, Katie; Student members –

- Meeting started 7:13
- Overview of zoning and how the MCC plays a role (Dan Richardson from the DRB, Meredith from Zoning Office)
 - Rules of procedure should be buttoned up once applications come our way
 - DRC is similar in nature with somewhat informal charge
 - Recommendation forms
 - Example from DRC
 - No projects have triggered yet
 - Issues if the MCC does not meet deadlines
 - If we don't have a quorum or miss a deadline
 - The project would move forward without an MCC review
 - An example of what we might be able to provide
 - Steep slopes along a river when a landowner
 - We might suggest more robust erosion control
 - Invasive species
 - Might suggest removing and planting natives
 - Zoning Office will loop in the MCC as early as possible
 - Conservation PUD will be the biggest lift
 - Suggested that one or two members represent the MCC at the DRB meetings
 - MCC recommendations should be worded in a way that can be turned into permit conditions from the DRB
 - Who is the City staff charged with helping the MCC
 - This person is charged with giving the MCC the information packet
 - Also, they should be supporting the MCC in general
 - There should be a recommendation form for each of the four/five types of review we do
 - The MCC should start building a catalog of information to call upon with the help of MCC's city staff member
 - The MCC may require having certain types of experts on the commission
 - Start to have discussions in the abstract
 - Figure out the process
 - Not the hardest part, more of a formal conversation
 - Go to a DRB meeting to see how things play out
- Sustainable Montpelier Coalition
 - Laura from the SMC
 - Grew out of the Net Zero design competition, started about a year ago
 - Started with transportation as a start
 - Moving towards river access and stormwater
 - Trying to figure out to put all groups together to help with the river projects
 - Meeting in mid June for potential partners, Katie can be the point-of-contact

- Sean Beckett from NBNC
 - Master Naturalist Program
 - Two projects at a minimum will be picked by current Master Naturalist students
 - The MCC will vote to make the sponsorship official and allocate funding
- How to get the group more engaged
 - What has changed over the years
 - Process for institutionalizing information
 - Polling the group to see if meeting times are an issue
 - How to make sure how projects are interesting enough
 - We could support projects from other groups as well
- Meeting adjourned 9:05pm

DRAFT