



**Town of Stowe
Conservation Commission
Monday June 24, 2024
MEETING MINUTES**

A regular meeting of the Conservation Commission was held on Monday June 24, 2024, at 5:30 pm in the Memorial Room of the Stowe Town Office, followed by a site visit to Mayo Farm. Members in Attendance: Jacquie Mauer, Phillip Branton, Evan Freund, and Seb Sweatman. Staff in Attendance: Sarah McShane. Others in Attendance: None

Call to Order- J.Mauer called the meeting to order shortly after 5:30 PM.

Public Comments & Adjustments to the Agenda – No public comments. Several adjustments to the agenda were made. Members agreed to table the review of Stowe Trails Partnership (STP) Stowe Village Trail Connector proposal. Members agreed to first discuss the ‘Flood Resiliency Element of the Town Plan’ followed by ‘Opportunities to Reduce River Erosion.’

Review Meeting Minutes [06/10/2024] On a motion by P.Branton, seconded by S.Sweatman, the minutes of the prior meeting were approved unanimously.

Flood Resiliency – Reivew Element of the Town Plan

Members read the adopted Flood Resiliency Element of the current Town Plan. Staff provided a brief background on the statutory required element and opportunities for the Commission to be involved in the Town Plan update process. She explained the Town Plan – Chapter 5- creates goals, policies, and tasks for future implementation. The Conservation Commission is an implementing partner. The Commission will reserve time on a future agenda for continued discussion.

Discuss- Opportunities to Reduce River Erosion

Members discussed the riverbank erosion near the Quiet Path and potential planting projects to reduce erosion. Members agreed to invite Peter Danforth to a future meeting and continue discussion.

Sterling Forest Management Plan Update – Next Steps

S. McShane briefly updated the Commission on the status of the update to the Sterling Forest Management Plan. J.Mauer encouraged the Commission to review the survey responses. Members discussed potentially working with State Forester Emily Potter on a forest assessment and identifying the project within the amended management plan as a future project. Members agreed to dedicate meeting time for continued discussion in hopes of recommending the amendments to the Selectboard by September or October.

Friends of the Winooski- Water Quality Testing Project

S.McShane distributed sampling bottles and field information sheets. Members agreed to sample the assigned sites and drop off collected samples tomorrow morning.

Review Stowe Trails Partnership (STP) Cady Hill Connector Trail Proposal

Tabled to next meeting.

General Reports & Updates

None

Other Business

None

Mayo Farm Quiet Path Site Visit

Members conducted a site visit to Mayo Farm to observe river erosion along the Quiet Path.

Next Meeting Date- 7/8/2024

The meeting adjourned shortly after 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah McShane- Planning & Zoning Director