

## Topsham Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved 11/8/22

Oct 11, 2022 at 5:30 pm

Topsham Town Office

In attendance: Kate Burch, Shana Stewart Deeds, Victor Langelo, Steve Pelletier and Hap Stelling.  
Meetings open to all and held at the Town Offices, please contact the Topsham Planning Office to receive a Zoom link to join us remotely.

I. Approval of Sept 13 meeting minutes.  
Minutes approved as written.

II. Review open space proposal for Mobile Home Park expansion plan.  
TCC discussed the proposal for the Mobile Home Park expansion plan. We remember vernal pools on the property and are curious about plans to conserve them. If they are applying for a waiver to not turn open space lands over to the town, then we will need a way to be sure the lands are not developed in perpetuity and maintained for recreational purposes - perhaps this can be accomplished with an easement. The need for access by Topsham Trail Riders was discussed, along with the possibility of a culvert sufficient to allow animal/amphibian crossing.

**Action Items: Steve will put these comments together for TCC in the VP report.  
Staff will inform us if their proposal goes back to the Planning board yet.  
TCC will invite the Recreation Department to our next meeting to discuss.**

III. NAP update - Review RFP

Victor rewrote the scope of services for the NAP RFP and edited the deliverables. The deliverables need more work. Victor needs comments from TCC on his changes, and suggestions for edits. Victor will email this info, and TCC can respond via email before the next meeting. We can do that via email over the next month.

**Action Item: Victor will email us the edited NAP RFP and TCC will respond.**

IV. Updates

A. BTLT monitoring of Rogers Property.

Kate updated TCC on this property, and put info in the project notes she sent to TCC. The boundary/parcel line is not well marked and neighbors are encroaching with activities such as piling wood over the line. Kate talked to Mark about having the boundary marked. BTLT will do so if we pay for the signs. Town will send postcard indicating the need to avoid crossing the parcel line with activities. The Town is responsible to maintain the property and BTLT monitors. Kate requested we be included on the monitoring since there is an empty space in the planning dept not sure who else will be able to go.

A. Christine Cole Memorial – Victor left a message for Susan at the library and will continue pursuing a discussion with her.

B. MEACC Conference Oct 22 at Curtis Library.

Victor, Audie and Shana will attend and report at the next meeting.

C. Updates from Kate before she leaves her position at the Town.

Kate sent a list of TCC related projects.

Kate has a grant requests in the TFM watershed that needs TCC input. These are 319 grants for physical work at the mall, stormwater basin in by the town and salt mgmt. with contractors. Kate will be sure TCC is included in invites. FB Environmental will coordinate with TCC to include a presentation about the TFM project at a future TCC meeting, and will do a trail walk at the TFM stream before it snows heavily. Kate is meeting with consultants and will connect everyone.

V. Items for upcoming meetings

- NAP RFP review
- Landscaping trees
- Kate's last day in Topsham will be Friday, 10/21
- FB Environmental presentation on mall
- Head of Tide monitoring

Shana made a motion to adjourn which Victor seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary, Shana Stewart Deeds.