



Approved 5-18-2015

Minutes 04-20-2015

Present: Ken Minck, Suzanna Brown, Nancy Volatile-Wood, Kent Henderson, Bill Ellis, Fred Grimm, and guest Rod Vallee
Missing: Rob Meader

7:06 Call to order by Vice Chair Kent Henderson (in the absence of Chair Rob Meader.)

Rod Vallee: Presented he and his wife's new book, "A Closer Look at Nature" (which contains about 375 species of native animals and plants, were photographed and annotated, all were sited in Georgia, VT) to each Commission member. The book is available for free to all Georgia residents and will be provided to all attendees of GCC events. The commission thanked Mr. and Mrs. Vallee.

Minutes: Motion moved by Suz, seconded by Nancy. March minutes were approved unanimously

Financial Report: General fund \$25,879.44 and CRF \$180,712.86 Line item balance \$1641.30 Motion moved by Nancy, seconded by Bill. March financials approved unanimously. Extensive discussion ensued and GCC Treasurer was requested to assist in developing a more concise method of reporting and will coordinate with Town Treasurer.

Select Board Minutes Review: b), Conservation Reserve Fund. It is the opinion of VLCT that this is a line item in the budget and is at the direction and control of the select board to decide if it is continued in any future budget. No action taken.

GCC will continue to research annual funding of the Conservation Reserve Fund.

Suzanna moved \$300 for three puppet shows at the school April 29th
Motion by Nancy, seconded by Suz. Passed unanimously

By-Laws: Tabled

RGNA:

Engineering request for 8 parking spaces,(about 1500 sq. ft.) local approval cannot occur until the engineering work is performed. The Select board is awaiting the outcome of the town lawyer's review of Harrison/Bryce property transfer before selecting an engineering firm. RGNA Deer Brook Trail Boardwalk repairs: Scheduled for 4-28 2pm. Ken to meet Kent at 7:30 am with supplies. Bill will supply 3" deck screws. Trash and brushwork will also be completed. Fred has battery-operated tools.

Henley Webster Forest Sign: Cedar 4x4 posts (on hand) to be set in concrete, date TBD

Lewis Creek: May 8th 2 pm depart from Kent's house

Town Common/Carpenter Hill Rd storm water drainage possible project with VT DEC, Town of Georgia, and private landowners: Kent met with Staci Pomeroy (ANR) and Karen Bates (DEC),to look for corrective action for serious sediment and erosion problems in the Town Common and state defined impaired waterway. Staci's proposal to be worked up and reported at a subsequent meeting.

Green-Up Day: Saturday May 2 9-1pm NWSWD will be accepting green up trash, Ken and Suz trucks available, Suz to bump Rob about advertisement, Cub Scouts-Mill River Area.

Summer Programs: National Trails Day 6-6-15-under development

*2015 Budget: Line items: Fees and Education \$500, Trail Maintenance and RGNA forest management plan \$1500
Conservation Reserve Fund \$1
Funded by monies in the GCC general account: Scholarship \$500, ROW \$1000, FNLC \$600, Green-up VT \$200 RGNA Parking lot \$12,000
AVCC Mini Grant: \$600*

New Business:

Rob Meader expressed through Suz that he wished to step down as Chair, so a change in many offices ensued. The Commission expressed its gratitude for Rob's excellent leadership and continued dedication to Town conservation efforts.

Election of officers

Chair-Kent (Kent specified if re-elected for a 2nd term, he would only serve as chair for 2 years). Moved by Bill, seconded by Nancy approved unanimously

Vice-chair-Suz

Moved by Nancy, seconded by Fred approved unanimously

Clerk-Ken

Moved by Bill, seconded by Suz approved unanimously

Treasurer-Nancy

Moved by Bill, seconded by Fred approved unanimously

Scholarship: Three applicants were received and reviewed. By secret ballot, one applicant was selected unanimously; student name will be withheld until the school award banquet.

Mini Grant: AVCC-it was decided not to apply this year.

Other: Facebook page opened for the Commission was discussed; Updating, maintenance, and time commitment by a volunteer Commission were concerns. So more information will be solicited for further discussion at a subsequent meeting.