

**Draft Minutes of the
Hartford Conservation Commission
February 1, 2016**

Members Present: Janice Berger, Shawn Kelley and chair Jon Bouton.

Staff Present: Planner Matt Osborn.

Others Present: None.

A meeting of the Conservation Commission was held at the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, WRJ, Vermont, on Monday, February 1, 2016 in Room 312. Jon Bouton called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

1. **Additions/Changes to the Agenda:** Jon Bouton asked if there are any changes or additions to the agenda. There were none.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Jon Bouton asked if there are any corrections or additions to the Draft Minutes of January 4th. Being none, Jon stated that the minutes are approved by unanimous consent as written.
3. **Land Management Committee (LMS) & the Town Forest Trails:** Jon Bouton reported that Matt Osborn and he met with G.I.S. consultant Brian Riordan about the Town Forest map. He stated that the map is coming along. Jon noted that he has been walking the Town Forest boundary to collect data points.
4. **Linking Lands Alliance:** Jon Bouton reported that consulting forester Patrick Bartlett will be presenting a wildlife program for the Linking Lands Alliance at Damon Hall in Hartland on Saturday, February 13th 2:00 p.m.
5. **Save Dewey's Pond Committee:** Janice Berger reported that the January 13th community meeting on the future of Dewey's Pond had a good turnout and there was strong community support to save the pond. Jon Bouton stated that he thought it was a productive meeting. Janice reported that Parks and Recreation Department Director Tad Nunez will be working with the Army Corps of Engineers and Green Mountain Power Corporation.
6. **Water Sampling Report:** Shawn Kelley reported that the annual water sampling report was released a while ago and the two sites on the Ottauquechee River that he samples had good results.
7. **Community Resilience Organization Hartford (CROH):** Jon Bouton reported that the CROH met last week. He noted that the Committee is energized. They have developed a draft mission statement, objectives and actions and will be working on concrete action items from the Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan. Jon stated that the CROH is considering involvement in a large event tied to the 5th anniversary of the Irene Flood in late August.

8. Hartford Subdivision Regulations: Matt Osborn reported that the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Draft Subdivision Regulations on Monday, January 25th. The Planning Commission approved the Draft and submitted it to the Selectboard for them to consider adoption. Jon Bouton attended the 1/25 Planning Commission hearing and focused his comments on natural resource issues. Matt stated that staff will be presenting the Draft Subdivision Regulations to the Selectboard tomorrow evening and a Selectboard public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16th.

9. Announcements/Reports:

- a. HCC Snowshoe: Jon Bouton stated that he thinks we should hold the Annual HCC Snowshoe whether there is snow or not. The HCC agreed. Jon suggested holding it in the Town Forest and having a small barbecue with hot dogs and hot chocolate. Matt Osborn stated that he will prepare a flyer and promote the outing. He suggested selecting a topic for the walk. The HCC agreed to winter tree identification, forest ecology and stewardship.
- b. Recruiting New HCC Members: Jon Bouton reported that Dana Hazen will be submitting an application to the HCC later this week. Matt Osborn noted that Karen Douville has decided to step down from the HCC when her term ends in August, meaning that the HCC will still be down two members.

10. Next Meeting: Jon Bouton reported that the next regularly scheduled HCC meeting will be held on Monday, March 7th.

11. Adjournment: Matt Osborn thanked the Conservation Commission for moving the meeting time to allow him to attend another meeting this evening. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.