

Mount Holly Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

The January regular meeting of the pm by Phil Crane. It was held in the Community Room below the Library. 7:07

Peter Smith, Jeanmarie Fitzgerald, Phil Crane, Sue Presson, Phil Leonard, Jim Corven, Megan Litwhiler.

Approval of Agenda

The meeting agenda was discussed and approved, with the addition of an “ASK” for MHCC inclusion in the upcoming January 4 meeting for 2025 Town Budget planning.

Minutes from December 5, 2023 were approved. (Moved by P. Smith, seconded by J. Corven.)

Discussion of Response to Draft Town Plan

Phil C. and Peter have created a draft response voicing MHCC endorsement of the draft town plan in general terms. It will be circulated to members and conveyed to the Select Board in advance of their upcoming January 16 hearing.

Commission Projects, Priorities and Possibilities

We spent time discussing the Shade Tree project, as in this case there was a subcommittee comprising people from the community along with MHCC members. The conversation turned to exploring ways to widen community participation in others of our endeavors. Megan expressed interest in exploring this with the school and other organizations, and possibly developing a sort of Town Guide for volunteer opportunities.

Star Lake

Phil L. spoke about his conversation with Jon McCann about an action by the Mount Holly Conservation Trust in support of a plant study at Star Lake. They have funds available, and wonder if the MHCC wants to be a partner in this effort. **The Commission gave unanimous support to being a partner in this project.** Phil C.

Rutland County Solid Waste District

Jim led discussion about the possible future availability of compost bins from the Rutland County Solid Waste District. These could be available at cost for use by townspeople.

Inventories – Topic Deferred to a future meeting

ChitChat for December

Sue will circulate a draft comment in advance of the December 19 deadline.

Other and New Business

None discussed.

Action Items

- Phil C. to bring his thoughts about Projects, Priorities and Possibilities.
- Phil C. and Peter to finalize our response to the Town Plan.
- Sue to begin preparing a piece for the next ChitChat.
- Phil L. to investigate a Star Lake subcommittee and details about the and plant study.
- Peter and Jim to continue coordinating Inventories review.

Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the MHCC will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Phil Leonard, clerk.