



Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 23, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
Community Room, 43 Bombardier Road, Milton, VT 05468
In Person and/or Via Zoom

Members Present: Laurie DiCesare, Tim Cunningham, Joseph Duquette, Steve Mitchell, Bonnie Pease, William Pikul

Members absent: Colin Santee and Bonnie Whitlock.

Staff Present: Kris Dulmer (Tree Warden/MCC Liaison); Cassandra LaFayette (Town Planner).

Public Present: Tara Piraneo (VT Entomological Society member) and Shirley Zundell (Audubon Peregrine Falcon spotter who introduced Laurie to iNaturalist.)

I. Call to Order

W. Pikul called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

II. Agenda Review

III. Approval of Minutes of May 26, 2026

Conservation Commission minutes were approved.

Motion: Bonnie Pease

Second: Joseph Duquette

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

IV. Public Forum

No public comments.

V. Business

A. iNaturalist Presentation by Dana Williams of VT Center for Ecostudies (VCE):

Dana Williams is the Community Science Center Volunteer coordinator for the VT Center for Ecostudies (see www.vtecostudies.org, the VT Atlas of Life, and the VCE Newsletter). The VCE is a non-profit organization that is involved with wildlife research, with surveys of birds, bees and butterflies. (Shirley Zundell is a butterfly volunteer.) Dana highlighted some of the primary features of the iNaturalist app and answered some questions. The data may be used for predator/prey interactions and other wildlife conservation planning. The Explore function is open to the public.

B. BioBlitz Update (Laurie DiCesare):

Laurie is preparing the hand-outs for BioBlitz participants. We will schedule a special MCC meeting before the BioBlitz (instead of on our usual 4th Tuesday) for additional BioBlitz preparations.

C. Milton Town Forest (MTF) ADA Viewing Platform:

William said the trail stonework will be completed after July 1. The trail is currently too wet to transport equipment.

D. MTF Kiosk Signs and Maps:

The Carriage Barn kiosk cost will be covered by Tiny Grant. Steve has a final version of the sign and will ask Bill Kagele for an estimate of the cost. Cassie wants to make a master trail map that would include all of Milton. The concept was well received.

E. MTF Nature Interpretive Signs for the Viewing Platform:

See <https://naturewalksigns.com/products/nature-signs>.

F. MTF Kiosk Tiny Grant Awarded:

William said the town has received the money for the Tiny Grant for the MTF kiosk.

G. Milton Pond Assessment:

Cassie says the town has hired a consultant to do an assessment of Milton Pond which will include an Emergency Management assessment. We will receive feedback once their report is generated. The previous assessment was conducted in 2024.

H. Lamaille Riverwalk: Checkerberry Property Tree Assessment:

Kris visited the site of the tree that a neighbor said was encroaching on their property. Cassie will investigate the right-of-way. Kris said the problem could be easily solved by Public Works.

I. Music in the Park: MCC Tent:

Cassie said the MCC has been scheduled for two dates, one in July and one in August. We will confirm the dates with Recreation. Kris handed us each two wooden MCC name tags, one in dark and one in light wood. Joseph handed out the ones he made with a 3D printer.

J. MCC Project List Review:

Steve will update the list. Although the trail is currently too wet for equipment, he has been seeing positive comments about the lack of mud on the new ADA trail. We will need "before" and "after" photos of our work and will begin setting new priorities.

K. Eagle Mountain: Hoyt Overlook Sign Replacement:

Steve said Bill Kagele's estimate was about \$110. Steve will ask about a timeline for the new sign. Cassie suggested we request \$130 to cover any extraneous costs.

Joseph Duquette **MOVED** that we allocate up to \$130 for a new Hoyt Overlook sign. Bonnie Pease **SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

Bonnie Whitlock has been trying to clean some of the older Eagle Mountain signs. William said he will try to sand and refinish them.

L. MCC Group Photo:

Photo date is to be determined. Cassie will order long and short-sleeved tees for us.

M. Treasurer's Report:

Tim said \$442 was spent; we just agreed to spend \$130 on new signage; and some additional invoices are anticipated. The Town administers our Tiny Grant fund of \$800.

N. Staff Update:

For any changes affecting the MCC. Kris said there are no current new hires.

O. Nature Notes:

Laurie photographed a rare Hackberry Emperor Butterly (*Asterocampa celtis*) in her front yard. She had planted a Huckberry tree, the larval food plant, in her back yard ~12 years ago. She posted the find on iNaturalist. Tim photographed a red eft, a your Red-Spotted Newt. Cassis said the photo of a Northern Woodland Jumping Mouse that Laurie showed her, helped solve a mystery-animal sighting. Bonnie saw a woodchuck around her home. Steve has seen deer at Eagle Mountain

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Joseph Duquette. Bonnie Pease **SECONDED. ALL APPROVED.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

All documents pertaining to this meeting may be viewed using the following link:

https://miltonvt.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/TownOfMiltonFilesFolders/IgCAifyIOabBSaHZ2_XuMzALAXoMozSWDdxgv-uosVX-IWs?e=9HdL5Y

Minutes recorded and submitted by William Pikul

APPROVED
MINUTES:

William Pikul, Chair

Date

Milton Town Clerk

Filed this day with the Milton
Town Clerk's Office.