

**Champlain Valley Conservation Partnership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 23, 2022; 1:30 PM**  
**Remote GotoMeeting**

Attendees: Ashley Parker, SB Project Manager; Melinda Scott, Williston Conservation Planner; Sarah Gentry Tischler, St. George Selectboard; Abel Russ, St. George Development Review Board; Gail Albert, Shelburne Natural Resources & Conservation Committee; Jens Hilke, Conservation Planning Biologist, VT Fish & Wildlife Department; Sarah Dopp, President South Burlington Land Trust; Tim Larned, Winooski Valley Park District

Absent: Alex Weinhagen, Hinesburg Director of Planning & Zoning; John Bossange, South Burlington Natural Resources & Conservation Committee; Don Rendall, Shelburne Natural Resources & Conservation Committee; Bob Hyams, Hinesburg Conservation Commission; Melanie Needle, Senior Planner, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission; Kate Kelly, Hinesburg Conservation Commission; Nick Warner, Winooski Valley Park District

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Meeting began at approximately 1:35 PM.

Welcome and Round of introductions.

**Changes or additions to Agenda –**

**Consideration of Minutes from Previous Meeting –**

The meeting minutes were reviewed from January 26<sup>th</sup>. No edits were requested and the minutes were accepted as-is.

**Partner News and/or Updates –**

Melinda noted that Williston is working with graduate students in the Field Naturalist Program. Some of the students are working on identifying trail connections (and they may be reaching out to other towns), and another is working with Jens to set up wildlife cameras and monitor wildlife crossings.

Jens shared that Alex had shared some locations in Hinesburg for possible game camera installs.

Sarah Dopp shared that South Burlington City Council passed the new LDRs. She provided two potential road crossing monitoring locations, and also noted that South Burlington citizens are taking on monitoring tasks.

**Project Update: Land Trust Roundtable –**

The work group has not had a chance to meet, but is planning on having more information for consideration at the April meeting.

**Project Update: Regional Conservation Stewardship Events -**

Ashley shared the outline of potential events for this season. It is still a work in progress and dates need to be confirmed.

Someone suggested the group consider hosting annual forest management walks to talk share stewardship options with landowners. Andrea Shortsleeve, with Fish & Wildlife, might be able to help with this.

St. George shared the latest with their community conversation. They decided to move their Town Meeting day to April 30<sup>th</sup>, and are hoping to have some kind of Community Fair that day. Sarah was hoping there could be representation from the CVCP that afternoon. And maybe Ethan Tapper could come and give a walk. This could easily be folded into one of the regional events.

**Discussion: Project Ideas for Fall Muddy Brook Master Naturalist Class –**

The group started discussing some potential ideas for students in the fall 2022 Muddy Brook Master Naturalist class to consider when it's time for their group projects. Ashley said she would compile the ideas and pass them on to Alicia.

- Finding sources of watershed pollution that exits to Lake Champlain.
- Wildlife tracking/monitoring/identification of locations for tracking wildlife across borders.
- Organize and lead series of hikes throughout region (connect to series of walks).
- Organize one or two volunteer work days (i.e.: restoration of Muddy Brook) – could coordinate with Intervale or US Fish & Wildlife.
- A project associated with pollinators (monitoring an identified site for presence of pollinators).
- Possibly conduct natural resources assessment of a priority property.
- Development of interpretive information for the Fish & Wildlife Shelburne boat launch and Williston Rest Stop bulletin boards.

**Review & Discuss: Possible CVCP Logo –**

Ashley shared the revised CVCP logo and the group moved to use the new, revised logo as designed. The next steps will be to incorporate the logo into outreach materials, including posters or tablecloths for outreach events. Jens suggested that Ashley share a blurb about the group, with the new logo, on the Fish & Wildlife listserv. Can also follow that up with future event announcements.

The next meeting will be March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:30 PM. Ashley will send around the agenda and virtual meeting info closer to.

The meeting was adjourned at about 3:05 pm.