

Henry H

From: melindahumphrey@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 6:14 PM
To: charlesr; Henry; jeffw@rutlandcity.org; savecombinationpond@gmail.com
Subject: Charter Ordinance Committee minutes 8/17

Hi Henry, please include the following minutes from our 8/17 committee meeting in the packet for Tuesday's Board meeting. Pardon the delay, I'm just returning from vacation out of town. Also, Charles and Jeff please note the request for a draft ammendment. We would like to reconvene by mid October-as Charles has planned time off, let me know if that is too soon for this request. Thanks

Charter and Ordinance Committee met Wednesday 8/17 5:30, adjourned 5:53
Committee members present were David Allaire, Sharon Davis, chaired by Melinda Humphrey
Others attending were Mike Messier and Eric Bergindahl, residents and property owners on Combination Pond

Mr. Messier and Bergindahl explained that a riparian buffer is an area of vegetation adjacent to streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands which provides shading as well as supports aquatic insect species, ultimately impacting water quality and water temperature. They stated that in regards to current concerns, particularly at Combination Pond, it is important to preserve and protect the riparian buffer and in order to do so, the city needs enforceable regulations that property owners can reasonably follow and comply with.

After brief discussion, the committee requests that City Attorney Romeo in cooperation with the DPW Commissioner, draft an amendment incorporating additional and separate language for Riparian Buffers into the existing Title 25, Chapter 5 Injurious Practices in Streets and Public Place, SS 4469 Maintenance of vacant lots; expenses; enforcement. Please consider the following;

- Federal, State and City definitions of riparian buffer
- Current recognized best practices for both creation of and maintenance of riparian buffer on private property
- Existing recommendations included in the Lake Champlain Plan
- The August 1 date of the existing ordinance for mowing vacant lots, may not be appropriate for life cycles of species supported by the buffer, a carveout specific to riparian buffers differentiating them from vacant lots may be appropriate.
- Fines for mowing the buffer

This item remains in committee and we will meet back in approximately two months to discuss draft language.

Thanks,
Melinda Humphrey