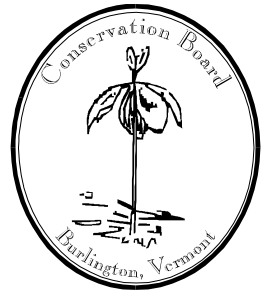


Burlington Conservation Board

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*Rebecca Roman, Chair
Ryan Crehan, Vice Chair
Zoe Richards
Don Meals
Ethan Ely
Dale Azaria
Evan Horne
Kelly Farrell
Alan Reichard*



Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 6, 2026 – 5:30 pm

Remote Meeting

Attendance

- **Board Members:** Rebecca Roman (RR), Ryan Crehan (RC), Evan Horne (EH), Ethan Ely (EE), Don Meals (DM), Kelly Farrell (KF), Zoe Richards (ZR), Dale Azaria (DA), Alan Reichard (AR)
- **Absent:**
- **Public:** Sharon Bushor, Dave Marshall, Marty Spaulding, Andres Torizzo
- **Staff:** Scott Gustin (Permitting & Inspections), Dan Cahill (Parks & Rec)

RR, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Minutes

March 2, 2026 minutes

A MOTION was made by DA and SECONDED by AR:

Approve the March 2 minutes as written.

Vote: 7-0-0, motion carried (no KF or EH yet)

Board Comment

ZR mentioned Spectacular Nature Day taking place at the Interval Center at the end of this month.

Public Comment

None.

Project Review

1. ZP-26-36; 175 Institute Rd (I, Ward 7) Dave Marshall / Burlington School District

Proposed stormwater modifications, consistent with the scope and objectives of an EPA-administered enhancement grant.

Dave Marshall, Marty Spaulding, and Andres Torizzo appeared on behalf of the application.

Dave Marshall overviewed the project. West of the ball fields, there is an existing stormwater management facility. This project will improve access for educational purposes, especially for students. There are also some improvements to the baseball field proposed. A viewing platform is proposed, along with walking paths for access. ADA access is incorporated into the design. Dave overviewed the constructed features of the stormwater facility and the intent to provide educational access to the distinct components.

The programs and services of the Dept. of Permitting & Inspections are accessible to people with disabilities. For accessibility information call 865-7188.

Marty Spaulding said its recently gone out to bid. We do not have funding for everything that is depicted. Bids are going to the school board soon.

Andres Torizzo mentioned the Board reviewed the original design. What's proposed now is an enhancement, not compromising any performance.

RR, where is the planting plan? Andres, there is one. Dave, it was not included in the application. Marty showed the landscaping plan.

DM, the stormwater pond was fenced. Is it any longer? Marty, a safety fence is proposed around the pond.

EE, is the area between the gabions to dry out between rain events, or does it remain wet? Andres, its designed to drain down.

KF, does the proposed plant community reflect that in nearby wetlands? Is ground cover proposed?

Andres, there's ground cover there now. There's an intent to green/soften the gabion walls.

RC, what's different about this plan versus the prior plan? Andres, we needed a modified state permit due to the additional access measures.

Marty Spaulding, the school district received a couple of grants. We have some additional funds that can be used to enhance the system that has been installed. We are focusing on educational enhancements.

ZR, when will the plantings be installed? Marty, this project could start mid-June and could continue to the start of the school year. Plantings will likely take place in the fall. The school district works with Parks' conservation team frequently.

Dave touched on the stormwater improvements to the baseball field. We are looking to create opportunity for infiltration and to also introduce filtration of runoff to improve water quality.

A MOTION was made by ZR and SECONDED by EE:

Recommend approval a recommendation that the school district works to plant native species as an educational opportunity.

Vote: 9-0-0, motion carried.

Open Space Subcommittee

RR recapped the Open Space Subcommittee meeting. RR, ZR, and SG met with Trust for Public Land last week. TPL will come up with a menu for us to determine what sort of ecosystem services we want evaluated. We'd like to create a workgroup with representatives from DPW, OCP, Parks and Planning Commission, and Conservation Board. We'd like to have this data ready to consider in the anticipated civic assets study. We are considering use of the Legacy Fund to pay for the analysis.

ZR, it can be complicated to quantify ecosystem services, but it's a way to assign some value to them.

KF, do you anticipate a breakdown by property? It would be cool if they could produce results to a particular property. i.e. Provide metrics / methods that could be applied on a specific property basis.

Update & Discussion

1. Wetlands Map

Review of draft updated wetlands map

SG overviewed the maps. They are the existing natural resources overlay map, inclusive of wetlands and the other three natural resource layers, the existing wetlands map, and the proposed wetlands map overlain on the existing map. The proposed wetlands map includes the city's existing wetlands map as well as the state's updated VSWI map and their advisory layer.

DM asked if there's anything in the existing map that will not be in the proposed map. SG replied, no.

RC said he thinks the map looks great.

DA asked about the apparent lack of proposed wetland polygons under some of the existing wetland polygons, like at Rock Point. SG pointed out the two layers are there but are difficult to see both for these especially small polygons.

EH asked about vernal pools. They don't show up in the proposed map. SG, nothing about the vernal pools is proposed to change.

SG noted the follow up Planning Commission and City Council process to amend the map in the zoning ordinance.

Adjournment

6:20 PM.