

Cow Pasture Stewardship Committee Member Recruitment and Expectations

Revision 1: March 18, 2021

The Cow Pasture Stewardship Committee was formed in the Fall of 2013. The desire is to have 5 active members. The committee currently meets on the third Thursday of every other month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The City requires that all Committees have a designated Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. There is a Management Plan for the Barre City Cow Pasture (Brodsky 2017) that provides property management guidance and goals and defines the Committee's Mission and Vision.

Mission: To connect people to the place in ways that allows recreation, exploration, collaboration, and stewardship of our Cow Pasture.

Vision: The Barre City Cow Pasture is an undeveloped natural area with ecological importance, historical significance and outdoor recreational opportunities.

Individuals interested in becoming a Committee Member:

- Must attend at least one Committee Meeting to introduce themselves and describe why they are interested in becoming a member,
- Be familiar with the Management Plan for The Barre City Cow Pasture (Brodsky 2017), and Barre City Cow Pasture Inventory, Assessment and Recommendations (Sharpless 2013),
- Provide the Committee and City Council with a letter describing the reason of interest in becoming a member and the skill sets that you would bring to the Committee, and
- Attend a Council Meeting for appointment consideration.

Committee Member Expectations:

- Attend all meetings (exceptions will be made for a valid reason),
- abide by the Committees *Communication Policy*,
- abide by State Open Meeting Law Rules,
- willingness to share in the responsibilities associated with the required positions: Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary, or in another capacity as described in the Management Plan for the Barre City Cow Pasture
- attend meetings prepared to participate,
- participate in committee activities, and
- share the Management Plan for The City Cow Pasture's mission and vision.

Preferred Committee Member criteria and skill sets include:

- City resident,
- Natural Resource, Outdoor Recreation or Forestry background,
- Public outreach and education background, communications and social media skills,
- Trail maintenance and mapping skills,
- Experience in Policy and Grant writing, and
- Experience from another Committee with a similar Mission/Vision.

Committee "Friends":

An alternative to becoming a Committee Member is to become a "Friend" of the Committee. "Friends" are individuals that have a focused interest in the property and will be the Committees contact/resource person. "Friends" are not required to attend Meetings unrelated to their focused interest or participate in Committee activities but are welcome.

Committee Direct Actions include:

- Annual Reports submitted to the City and annual Council presentations.
- Letter to Council supporting the preservation of 'paper streets'.

- Contracted with a consulting ecologist to develop the Management Plan for the Barre City Cow Pasture (2017) . The Plan utilized the Barre City Cow Pasture Inventory, Assessment and Recommendations Report created in 2013 prior to the Committee inception.
- Green-up Day (removal of old encampments and barbwire fence, trail restoration and invasive plant removal).
- Regulatory signage (No motorized vehicles, dumping of yard waste, hunting etc.).
- Educational outreach- In-person Naturalist walks, virtual walks.
- Applied for four and received the following three Grants to enhance the property: State of Vermont ANR Clean and Clear Grant (prior to Committee inception-2011), Vermont FPR Recreation and Trails Grant (prior to Committee inception-2013) and State of Vermont Building and General Services (2014).
- Logo contest
- Social media outreach

Community Collaboration and activities include:

- “Friends” have a focused interest in the Pasture property and assist with specific tasks (i.e. mowing) or are Committee resources (i.e. Naturalist).
- Winter-Fest.: Collaborate with local businesses to introduce and highlight outdoor winter activities.
- Vermont Youth Conservation Corp. (VYCC): Property and trail enhancement/maintenance, invasive species control.
- State of VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation: Invasive species and land management.
- Central Vermont Community Land Trust (CVCLT): Neighborhood Works Green Certification- Kiosk installation.
- Barre Technical Center: Trail improvements, bluebird boxes.
- University of Vermont Landscape Design Class: Property entrance design and trail considerations.
- Boy Scout Troop 714: Wetland trail restoration.
- Chief Bombardier: Law enforcement (camping, fires, hunting, dog issues).
- State Wetland Specialist: Guidance for wetland trail restoration.
- Administration and Planning activities: Creation of a Management Plan for the property and City Council Approval of the Plan.
- Co-ordinate with City Manager’s Office, Planning and Zoning, Public Works, and Public Safety City Departments to assist with the Management of the property.
- SnoBees: Establish a memorandum of understanding for trail grooming, maintenance and property use.
- Rezoning and Conservation: Advocated for the rezoning of the Cow Pasture from multi-use to conservation.
- Entrance Plan: Kiosk installed, signing and esthetic improvements.
- Trail and Property Map Development and sign installations.

Future Activities include:

- Assisting the City in meeting the objectives outlined in the Management Plan.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member please contact the Chair of the Committee; Chris Russo-Fraysier mcfraysier@myfairpoint.net or call 476-8396.