



The parks in Montpelier - from the walking trails through the deer-sheltering hemlocks of Hubbard Park to the charming Peace Park along the Winooski River to the child-friendly Harrison Preserve - have provided me with so many opportunities for respite in nature since my arrival in Montpelier in January of 2019. To this day, I continue to enjoy and cherish these public resources. I would be happy to serve as a Parks Commissioner if the voters of Montpelier would favor my participation on that commission.

My “qualifications” to represent you are a Master’s Degree in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School, a legislative internship at the Vermont Natural Resources Council, and my current

work as Wildlands Partnership Coordinator, Forest Carbon Specialist, and Land Steward at Northeast Wilderness Trust in Montpelier. (What can I say...non-profit; many hats!) In my previous community in Southern Minnesota, I volunteered for the Audubon Society and the League of Women Voters, and was an early-childhood educator for many years before embarking on my new career.

I am a hiker, a birder, a cyclist, and a paddler. I have many canine friends and appreciate that they need a place to stretch their legs as well. I feel kinship with and a responsibility to our wild cousins, and feel those sentiments are shared in Montpelier more than anywhere else I have lived.

The diversity of parks in the city is truly remarkable, and provides us with local access to the woods and rivers while providing wildlife some habitat as well. I would be honored to help with the management plans and stewardship of these parks for a few years. I would be committed to bringing open ears, my reasoning ability, and my voice to the table as the community navigates issues of access and multiple uses. I have the ability to engage in challenging conversations in a productive, non-personal way. I believe that common ground can be found even when community members have different priorities, and would work to craft reasonable solutions with the current team of Parks Commissioners.