

HINESBURG CONSERVATION COMMISSION

*Rob Farley, Dave Hirth, Melissa Levy,
Bill Marks, Nancy Plunkett, Gerry Livingston (Chair)*

MINUTES of August 27, 2007

Opening

The regular meeting of the Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:05 PM on August 27, 2007 in the Town Hall by Gerry Livingston.

Present: *Conservation Commission Members Rob Farley, Nancy Plunkett, and Gerry Livingston;*

Absent: *Dave Hirth, Melissa Levy, Bill Marks*

Visitors: David Raphael (LandWorks)

Greenspace and Cultural Resources Plan

Opening discussion prior to LandWorks arrival focused on CC concerns regarding perceived LandWorks productivity issues and how to address them.

In response to the above voiced concerns, David Raphael noted that LandWorks has been actively engaged in compiling the data inventory. Gerry countered that it was we (CC + Planning & Zoning) that gave LandWorks a detailed listing of data needed to address this contract and that it was progress on the remaining tasks that was of primary concern. Mr. Raphael noted that they have begun to address the organization of the GCRP and proposed it be organized around four categories: Natural Landscapes, Working Landscapes, Cultural Landscapes and Scenic Landscapes and also consider human vs natural derived landscapes. Some discussion followed in which the CC voiced that it would prefer an organization more similar to the draft they already prepared based on ecosystem function. It was decided to table further discussion at this time, however, to have time to address plans for the upcoming public forum.

Discussion thereafter focused on the purpose the forums intended to support the GCRP. It was decided three forums would be required. The first would outline the GCRP goals and seek input from the community and other committees on the areas of town most valued. The second forum will address possible conservation mechanisms (both regulatory and non-regulatory) and the third will present a draft of the plan to the public for review and comment. LandWorks is contracted to support two of these proposals. The CC decided that LandWorks expertise would be most valuable in supporting the first two forums and that the CC should lead the third.

Miscellaneous notes regarding the first forum.

- LandWorks will draft a straw man agenda and some introductory/presentation materials over the next week. Together we will refine and amend towards the final agenda. The primary goals are to introduce the public to the GCRP goals/objectives and to query the public as to what areas/objectives they value. The remaining issue is how best to organize our objectives.
- The Commission and LandWorks will jointly open and close the meeting and help frame the topics. Landworks will facilitate and gather data. Deadline to submit an add to *The Hinesburg Record* is September 10th.
- The media of choice are PowerPoint, posters, and handouts. The Town "tour" will likely be dropped for logistics reasons although no explicit decision was made. LandWorks may proceed with this activity on their own.

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- Any photos/images historic, natural areas, etc. from across the Town are needed. If you have access to any or can recommend anyone we contact, please contact the CC as soon as is possible. These potentially will be included in the presentation.
- Maps will be created for the public to identify areas they value (e.g. scenic roads, sites, habitats, ...). We also considered making these available for pickup and drop-off at multiple sites in Town although logistics may preclude this. Some discussion was also given to creating a survey to distribute by mail or via *The Record*.
- LandWorks will assume responsibility to draft an advertisement and brief accompanying article for submission to *The Record* by 10Sep.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM by Gerry Livingston. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 PM on September 10th at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by: Rob Farley