

HINESBURG CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

MINUTES of January 14, 2008

Opening

The regular meeting of the Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 14, 2008 in the Town Hall by *Gerry Livingston*.

Present: *Rob Farley, Dave Hirth, Melissa Levy, Nancy Plunkett, Gerry Livingston, Charles Kogge*

Absent: *Bill Marks (on leave)*

Approval of Minutes

Reports

Greenspace and Cultural Resources Plan

- Gerry summarized meetings with Alex Weinhagen on Jan. 4th and with LandWorks (Natalie Steen), Stantec (Polly Harris) and VT FWD (Jens Heilke). Frustration with LandWorks grows as deliverables scheduled for the end of December were not delivered. In contrast, however, work on outlining a database to aid management of significant wildlife areas in Hinesburg is progressing. The map produced by Natalie and Polly was reviewed, as was the Excel worksheet produced by Jens and Polly and suggested edits proposed. The draft documents were delivered as promised January 14.

The key data layers underlying the draft map include the VT FWD Wildlife Suitability Map (landcover-2002, core forest-1992, E-911, 1:5000 scale hydrology). Other data considered include the 1991 Chittenden Co. Report, the Natural Heritage program data, Acquirer recharge area map, and the VAST trail network (Jens has copy). When applied to the eastern portion of Town, the draft and Wildlife Suitability maps align very well. On the western side of Town, however, the forest areas are too fragmented. As such, boundaries on the draft map are based on interpretation of all of the data evaluated and based on the expert input of Jens and Polly. A full write up of the approach is to be delivered by end of February.

Need to check with Everett Marshall, Huntington regarding important identified habitats in Hinesburg.

- A decision was made to go forward to create a poster for Town Meeting Day (March 5) outlining Conservation Development. LandWorks is to produce the graphics and the poster using materials prepared for the GCRP itself.
- Discussion addressed how results of the survey recently distributed would be tabulated and summarized. It was decided that LandWorks would assume responsibility for summarizing the results and that the cost of this task would be billed independently of the current contract. P&Z has agreed to assume this cost.

Announcements:

None

Agenda for Next Meeting

- Continued focus on the GCRP.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM by Gerry Livingston. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 PM on January 28, 2008 at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by: G. Livingston