

HINESBURG CONSERVATION COMMISSION

*Dave Hirth, Melissa Levy (Chair),
Bill Marks, Jennifer McGowan*

MINUTES of February 1, 2011

Present: Melissa Levy, Jenn McGowan, Bill Marks
Guests: Allen Karnatz (Vermont Land Trust)

Land Conservation Fund

Melissa reported that there is currently \$9,931 in the Land Conservation Fund account, with an additional \$7,500 that was voted on last March for the current fiscal year but has not yet in the made it into the account.

Baldwin Presentation

Allen Karnatz presented the Baldwin application, explained the request for \$10,000, and answered questions about the process. The group needs to raise \$40,000 from local sources by the end of March. Two important outcomes of the project, in addition to conserving 144 acres of ag land: community members will have access to the river bank for recreational use; and the river will be allowed to follow its natural course without rip rapping or other interference.

*Commission members agreed to recommend the expenditure of \$10,000 from the Land Conservation Fund *

Zoning

Bill updated members about the process for updating zoning laws with the planning commission. They are determining how much density to allow in future development. The PC considered two approaches and is leaning toward a 'take-out' model, which does not include otherwise undevelopable land in its density calculation for a parcel, and also considers the type of road a project directly accesses. Bill will continue to attend meetings and will keep the HCC up-to-date.

HCC Recruitment

The HCC needs to turn to member recruitment and discussed strategies including an article in the local paper, blurbs in front porch forum, and perhaps most importantly, word of mouth outreach.

On February 15 and March 15, a focus on invasive species will be added to the regular agenda so the meeting times will be extended as follows:

Feb 15: 6:30-8:30

March 15: 6:30-9:00

Respectfully submitted by: Jenn McGowan