



## Hinesburg Trails Committee

Town Of Hinesburg

10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461

802.482.2281 | hinesburg.org

---

### Meeting Minutes September 12, 2012

**Present:** Stewart Pierson, Jim Goldsmith, Jane Sheldon, Lenore Budd, Michelle Fischer, Cathy Ryan, Peter Van Vranken, Greg LeRoy

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Minutes of the August 8th meeting had been approved by email. Stew pointed out that they reflected an annual town contribution of \$500, when in fact it has been increased to \$750.
2. Greg has resigned from the committee due to other commitments but assures us he will be available to help out with various projects. Stewart noted that Mary McClenan had expressed interest in joining in the past. He will contact her to see if she is still interested, and there will be a general announcement by the town of this vacancy.
3. The association for the condos at Lyman Park had pointed out that their easement allowed parking in their lot for sports activity in the recreation field behind Lantmans only, and not for access for hikers to the Russell Trails. Various alternative parking places were discussed and a plan will be reviewed at the next meeting.
4. The next workday was set for Saturday, September 29th. It does conflict with the Harvest Festival, but Peter's time is limited and that day is good for him. We will focus on clearing blow-downs from the trails on the HLT and Fallon properties. A plan for clearing blow-downs from the trails on the LHTF and the F&W property (and possibly salvaging timber in the process) is being developed by the Town Forest Committee with the assistance of the County Forester.
5. Jim is finalizing the negotiations with someone who can build the two kiosks we need to place at the start of the Russell Trails and New Town Forest. The HLT has offered to pay for these two, but we need to provide a description of the kiosk and cost estimate. The kiosk, which was vandalized and removed from the Old Town Forest, is being replaced by the Town Forest Committee.
6. Lenore has agreed to take on the leadership role of Vice Chair.
7. It was agreed that each TC member would take on the responsibility of walking a trail or segment of one each month to report on any problems such as missing signs, erosion or downed trees. Peter volunteered to take the LaPlatte / Copp Welch trails, Cathy the Russell Trails, Michelle the Old Town Forest and Lenore Geprag's Park. Other members will pitch in as needed.

**8.** Cathy showed us the new map of the Russell Trails that she made to show the rerouting of the section around the electrified fence. The Lyman Park parking area designation will have to be moved when that is determined. There is also a bridge that needs fixing on the trail. It is too low and too short for the area it is trying to cross, and boards are missing. Lenore has asked Josh Ryan of Timber and Stone, LLC, to provide an estimate for replacing the damaged bridge near the playing fields and solving the erosion problem along the southern leg of the perimeter trail. The idea is that next spring or summer Josh will purchase materials and supervise the Committee, which will provide the unskilled labor.

**9.** Lenore will write the TC article for the October issue of The Record (deadline September 26) and Stewart will write it for the December issue (deadline November 7).

**10.** The community hike/walk in the Old Town Forest was rescheduled from Saturday, October 13 to Sunday, October 21 due to Michelle's vacation plans.

**11.** The palettes donated by VT Smoke and Cure are being stored at Peter's. As soon as the blow-down is cleared and he can get a tractor into the New Town Forest we can move them onto the trails that need boardwalks or bridges. Peter also can't brush hog the hidden meadow.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. to allow TC members to attend the Rural Area Zoning Proposal meeting being held in the main hall. The next meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Sheldon, Secretary