



## Town Forest Committee

Town Of Hinesburg

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### Meeting Minutes November 7, 2012

**Opening:** Steve Russell called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 6:33 p.m. on November 7, 2012 in the Town Hall.

**Members Present:** Brent Francis, Pat Mainer, Jason Reed, Chuck Reiss (6:42), Steve Russell, Stewart Pierson, Paul Wieczoreck

**Absent:** Brooke Scatchard

**Guests:** Keith Thompson, Mike Potvin, Jim Collins

#### Approval of Minutes of September 5

Stewart moved to approve the minutes of September 5. Paul seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### Update on Bill Atwood's Work

Pat said the project area had grown in nicely. Paul said that in a year it will be more stable. Paul noted that it would be good if the traffic could stay on the rock until it stabilizes.

#### Develop a Work Plan and Assign Responsibilities

##### Marking Boundaries:

Chuck could work on area near Hayden Hill West; Brent could do the Hollis Parcel. Steve and Mike have found some boundaries and old paint near Hayden Hill East. We need to get together with adjoining landowners to define boundaries before we put anything permanent on the trees and will use ribbons until then. (Ralph Carse is now involved in managing the adjoining Carse land). Keith said only surveyors can legally blaze – (make the scar on the tree). Mike will notify his two neighbors that Steve is trying to find the boundaries again. Those present agreed on red paint and will need about five gallons of paint. Keith noted that latex is better for the environment but doesn't last as long.

Signs need to be done soon. We have \$4200 for the three-trailhead kiosks. The Trails Committee has priced them out and has a contract for them for \$2500. Chuck asked for the design so he could price it out. Stewart will send the design to all of us).

Stewart will work on the speed limit and general respect.

Pat will work on the trail map item.

### **A Possible Town Budget Item**

Steve would like to have an item of \$5000 for road and trail repair and maintenance with volunteer work. This money could be used to shore things up until more money becomes available. Lenore may be writing a grant.

Pat moved to request \$5000 from the Town for maintenance and repair of the road at some point(s) along the Eagles Trail between Economou Road and Hayden Hill West. Stewart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **An Update On The Salvage Operations In The Town Forests**

Keith said Bill Torrey started up there a few weeks ago. He did the small patch cut behind the parking lot and it looks good. He left debris and the parking area shouldn't be at risk of blow down. The Town will receive a little revenue from that. Bill has gone deer hunting now and will move into the hardwoods when he comes back. That is a tangled mess so the Town will not receive revenue from that.

Keith explained the proposed project plan for the LHTF salvage operation. He stressed the need to provide for the Indiana bat. He explained his 20-page document. Keith will implement the plan with a paint gun and it will be easy for Bill Torrey to do. This will be a break even job and Bill will start after he finishes in the HTF.

Keith will need a motion to approve the plan. Committee members will need to email Steve by November 24 stating whether or not they support the plan.

### **Other Business**

**1)** Those present discussed the mowing of the meadow in LHTF. One problem is that we need to mow after July 15, but by then wild parsnip has gone to seed. Then there is a need to use herbicide. After this year the intent is that the field will be maintained.

**2)** Brent would like, at some point, to review the process by which we get loggers to do work for us. Perhaps someone else can do the work as well for less. Keith commented on the need for and cost of oversight.

### **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

Pat moved to adjourn. Stewart seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Mainer