



Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes - October 27, 2015

- Approved 11/10/15 -

Members Present: Bill Marks, Meg Handler, Merrily Lovell

Members Absent: Alison Lesure

Guests: None

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Topics Discussed

- Bill proposed that Alison be the new chair. A motion was made, seconded, and there was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- **Minutes:** Approved 13 October 2015 minutes.
- **Last Year's Budget:** Meg provided all the figures and Commission reviewed past year's budgets and actual expenditures; drafted FY17 budget.
 - Looked specifically at the cost for mowing Geprags. Meg got the specific cost for this year and also for previous years back to 2003. The cost for this year, \$1300, included cutting down some trees. This year's cost was not the highest cost of the previous years '10, '09, and '08 were each \$1200, and in '11 it was higher than \$1300. Decision made to put the mowing out for competitive bids next year.
 - The overall budget was \$8,600 last year. One change: Geprags Park Maintenance increased to \$1500 (which was what it was in previous years) from \$1000.
 - Discussed invasives, for which there is no budget. It is an exhausting task, and no one was enthusiastic to take it on, but Merrily felt the Commission should do something in Geprags. It will stay on as a line item.
 - Natural Resources Planning – there is presently \$1000 in the budget, but not a specific need for this at this time. Dropped to zero and reallocated to two other line items: \$500 added to Geprags as noted above, and \$500 added to general operating budget.

- Lake Iroquois amount: Commission will ask for the same amount. Meg said they want more than last year, more than \$5000. Bill said they need to come and make their pitch to the Select Board for the increased funds.
 - Meg will write it up and submit the proposed budget to Trevor Lashua, with the Lake Iroquois item as \$5000+?, and the overall total as 7,900+?. Trevor will let us know when the Select Board wants to talk to us. Meg said the Lake Iroquois Assoc. is going before the Select Board on Dec. 21. The Lake Iroquois Assoc. will meet with us some time before Dec. 21.
- **Other Business** – Nov 7 meeting of Assoc. of Conservation Commissions – Alison and Merrily will attend.

Next Meeting: Nov. 10

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Merrily Lovell