



## Town Forest Committee

Town of Hinesburg  
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### Meeting Minutes - July 8, 2015

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**Present:** Brent Francis, Julie Gruenholtz, Corinne, Johansen, Pat Mainer, Mike Potvin,

**Absent:** Kevin Hans, Chris Haviland, Stewart Pierson Steve Russell,

**Guests:**

#### Call To Order

Mike Potvin called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:12 pm on July 8, 2015, in the Town Hall.

#### Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Corinne asked to add framing to the agenda.

#### Discussion/Approval of June Minutes

Julie moved to approve the minutes of June 10, 2015. Mike seconded. The minutes were approved, with one abstention, as submitted.

#### Treasurer's Report

the work on the Eagle's Trail by the FOTW cost \$715. Missy hasn't updated the books for the new fiscal year so there is no budget to approve at this time.

#### Updates

**Eagle's Trail** - Mike reported that FOTW has cleaned out the waterbars.

HHE Eagle Trail Project Plan – Mike reported that Keith has been promoted and so the State is looking for a new county forester. Keith and Chris Brunelle will be at the HHE parking lot Thursday, July 9, at 9:30 to discuss what to do about the erosion issues near that trail head. Mike will attend.

Framing- Corinne reported that there are choices as to how the copy of the enabling legislation document should look in a frame. Those present weighed in. Mike moved to approve a maximum of a \$50 budget for the framing and matting of the document to be on display in the library.

#### New Business

#### HTF Nomination for National Register of Historic Places

Mike reported that he got a letter from Devon Colman saying that the Hinesburg Town Forest has been

nominated to be on the National Register of Historic Places and relayed the history of the nomination process. Devon came to the Selectboard meeting last week. If the Forest does get it the designation, it would be the first municipally owned forest to be so recognized. Discussion followed.

Pat moved to report to the Selectboard that there is nothing in the management plan that is in conflict with the designation but that the committee recommends that the Selectboard check to find out if there are any legal ramifications or if there are any State or local preservation laws of which the Town should be aware before accepting the designation. Julie seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The issue will be on Selectboard agenda for July 16.

Pat will plan to attend to meeting on July 22.

Mike said that the original management plan is hanging at The Public House. Those present requested that Mike talk with Will and Kathleen Patten and ask if we could trade the original for a copy. Pat will look for her copy and will report at the September meeting.

### **State Centennial Celebration of Town Forests**

The Harvest Festival is September 26. Corinne, Julie and Pat will work on a scavenger hunt.

### **LHTF -Invasive Species-Wild parsnips (2 days mowing)**

Mike reported that Ernie Murray is going to start mowing tomorrow if it is dry enough. Budgeting for this could be an annual conundrum in terms of getting the funding to pay for it in the fiscal year we wish.

### **HTF - Invasive Species - Japanese Knotweed**

There does not appear to be any Japanese Knotweed in the Town Forest but there is a huge patch near a house on Thunder Drive, about a mile from the Town Forest. Mike will talk with the people to educate them. He'll talk with Keith about what information to give the people with the Japanese Knotweed.

### **Camping in the HTF- update to the Management Plan**

This topic was moved to the September agenda

### **Replacement of the Hayden Hill East Slow Driving Sign**

Mike reported that the sign needs replacement. Pat will order the sign. Mike moved to pay for the sign. Julie seconded. The motion carried.

### **Hiring a Forester?**

Brent wondered if we should hire a Forester to do the inventory since Keith hasn't had time for a long time. Mike will ask Keith about a time line with a new county forester coming on-board. This issue should be a topic for our September meeting.

### **August Meeting Attendance**

Mike said that only four committee members are available to attend the August meeting. Pat moved that there will not be an August meeting because of lack of quorum. Brent seconded. The motion carried.

### **Next meeting**

Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 7:00, p.m. third floor conference room in the Town Hall. Chris will run the meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Pat moved to adjourn the meeting. Corinne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Mike adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Mainer

DRAFT