



## Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg  
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**Meeting Minutes – November 29, 2016**  
**Hinesburg Town Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 7:00 PM**  
*- Draft -*

1. Call to Order 7:00 PM
2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda: none 7:05 PM
3. Yearly Report to Select Board Due Soon 7:10 PM  
Budget – review expenses for 2017, preview expenses for 2018 for presentation to Select Board on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Discussion about line items. Updated mapping wetlands and vernal pools would be a goal for Natural Resource Planning. We will look at expenses for this past year. We will vote on the budget at our next meeting, Dec. 13.
4. Lake Iroquois Association Request: 7:40 PM  

Having thought about the request – discussion about the possible negative environmental impact of using chemicals to control milfoil in Lake Iroquois, whether treating the lake will significantly improve the natural environment, as opposed to simply preserving/prolonging the lake’s recreational use. We were in favor of having the property owners around the lake do more to solve the problem, such as establishing buffers and meeting the VT Shoreline Protection Act standards before the town contributes. Merrily will formulate a response to the Lake Iroquois Association expressing our concerns about the treatment.
5. Geprags Management Plan: 8:00 PM
  - a. Dogs: No current rules accessible to the public. If we post rules on the website and on a sign at the park, it would be possible to have consistent rules. Lisa Barrett from Huntington came in to talk with the CC. She walks her dog there frequently. She says she has never seen dog waste on the trail, except once, when she removed it. She also doesn’t often see people there. *Although she also noted she walks mostly on the Northwest Hill Trail.* Lisa is here to advocate for allowing dogs off-leash in the park. Discussion followed. We are discussing this issue because of complaints to the Trails

Committee. We will discuss this further as part of our development of a new Management Plan. Formal Motion: to publish two rules on the website that say: 1. Dogs must be on a leash or under effective voice control at all times, and 2. People must pick up their own dog waste and take it with them out of the park. Meg made the motion. Alison seconded it. Vote came out 3 to 2 with no consensus, primarily because Bill and Bob thought all the existing rules were just as important and should be dealt with together. We decided to table the issue and discuss it at another meeting.

- b.** Park Rules: We can decide on our rules separate from the whole management plan. Alison sent around ideas for rules. We will discuss these rules at the next meeting.
- c.** Geprags work day reminder-Sat., Dec. 3, 9-12. Focused on the pipeline corridor.

6. Nature Notes

8:45 PM

7. Adjourn

8:50 PM

DRAFT