



Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes - January 20, 2016

- Approved 2/17/16 -

Present: Ray Mainer, Stewart Pierson, Jane Sheldon, Lenore Budd, George Dameron, Peter Modley

Guest: Oren Guttman

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

1. **Minutes** – Peter made a motion to accept the minutes from the December meeting and George seconded. They were approved by unanimous vote.
2. **Budget** – No expenses have been submitted since the last meeting so our total funds remain at \$976.45.
3. **Town Meeting** – We agreed that setting up another information table at town meeting was a good idea. Jane will coordinate volunteers, tables, maps and sign-up sheets. Stewart, Peter and Lenore all indicated they would help that night (Monday, February 29th) if possible.
4. **Historic Mill Site** – George reported that there was going to be a meeting at Town Hall on March 17th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to discuss the self-guided historical walks with Mill Street neighbors and any interested parties. Ann Thomas of the Hinesburg Historical Society (HHS) and George will co-host this meeting. George will also liaise with Ann to see if another walk can be organized in April.
5. **Trail Events** –
 - a. One idea discussed was snowshoeing. Oren mentioned that his running group (Long Trail Running Club) organizes night running events and has used the Russell Trail in the past. He agreed to post any other events in Hinesburg on Front Porch Forum.
 - b. Lenore will approach Mike Snyder, Commissioner of the VT Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, about being the featured speaker at a walk in the LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest some time in 2016. She'll check with the Town Forest Committee, Conservation Commission, Hinesburg Land Trust, and the Trust for Public Land about co-hosting the event.

- c. Lenore will host another beginner's bird walk at Geprags Park in the spring, work with the Town Forest Committee on organizing a 2016 scavenger hunt, and contact Annette's Pre-school about setting up another StoryWalk."
6. **SCHIP Grant** – Lenore has sent out the grant application for \$500 to buy tools for the TC. We hope to hear that we were awarded a grant before spring so we can purchase them in time for our first maintenance projects.
7. **Town Forest Maps** – Lenore and Alex have updated the HTF map to include the benches on the Passing the Horizon trail and a section of trails missing from the previous version. Alex has sent the revised pdf to Regional Planning Commission for printing the large format maps.
8. **Committee Vacancies** – With Peter VanVranken and Jim Goldsmith resigning as of January 1st we have two vacancies. Oren is in the process of applying and two others are considering it.
9. **Record Articles** – Lenore will write the article for the February issue (deadline is February 9th) and George will write the one for the April issue. We need to find an author for March.
10. **Other Business** – Stewart reported that a contractor, selected by the Town Forest Committee, using materials supplied by the town highway department has filled an eroded, poorly drained section of the Eagle's Trail. He also reported that he had installed one of the brown, metal hiker signs at the Hayden Hill West entrance to the HTF. Jane suggested that the entrance at Hayden Hill East would also benefit from one. Lenore has made a list of all the other trailhead locations needing the brown signs and will approach the highway department about installing them once she hears back from affected landowners."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Sheldon, Secretary