



Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg
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Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2016

- Approved 4/20/16 -

Present: Ray Mainer, Jane Sheldon, Lenore Budd, Peter Modley, Oren Guttman, Sue Rusten, and George Dameron

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

1. **Minutes** – Ray and Lenore both asked that changes be made to the February minutes in Point #7. Lenore made the motion to make the changes and Susan seconded. The February minutes were accepted as edited. (See revised February minutes.)
2. **Budget Update** – There has been no change since last month leaving us a total of \$976.45. Lenore reported that since we did not get the SCHIP grant, she called their contact to see if we should reapply. She learned that they did not receive any application from us, despite Lenore having a record of emailing it. She was instructed to send it in again for the May cycle.
3. **Passing the Buck Trail** - Lenore showed us the new map which was made for this trail. Lenore will write up the driving directions, etc. and send them and the map to Aaron for posting on the town website. Mike Anthony reminded Lenore that the trail easement includes a 2-car pull-off area at the Buck Hill West trailhead and said he'll work with the committee to construct the pull-off and post the brown trailhead signs in the spring or summer.
4. **Updating Our Webpage** – We need to look at the text for the TC page on the website to update anything that may be outdated (e.g. changes in committee members). Sue offered to review this for us.
5. **Spring Events**
 - a. Lenore is trying to find a bird expert to lead the spring bird walk on May 21st in Geprags but offered to do it herself if needed.
 - b. Peter suggested we could perhaps find a botanist or geologist to lead nature walks to highlight the unique features of our several systems.
 - c. Lenore has emailed Mike Snyder (Commissioner of VT Parks and Rec) to see if he will lead a joint hike, (Hinesburg Land Trust, Trust for Public Land, Town Forest Committee and Trails Committee) to showcase the projects we've done.
 - d. Jane suggested encouraging children's involvements via the mentoring program and will liaise with Ginny Roberts.

- e. Lenore will contact Annette's Preschool to see if they will set up another story walk after mud season.
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- 6. **National Trails Day** – National Trails Day is Saturday, June 4th. Lenore will check with Stewart to see if he is willing to be the main organizer this year. Stewart had suggested a few projects on the Russell Trail, e.g. bridge decking. Oren offered to look at the two bridges to see what materials would be needed. There are also several projects in the LaPlatte Town Forest which have been discussed in previous meetings.
 - 7. **Historic Mill Site Meeting** – The meeting to be held by Ann Thomas of the Hinesburg Historical Society for the neighbors of Mill Street is tomorrow night, March 17th. George will attend and report back to us if this is still a viable project.
 - 8. **LaPlatte Headwater Town Forest** – Lenore suggested that we have a field trip to the LHTF to review the various projects needed for this system in preparation for National Trails Day work or before. We settled on Saturday, March 26th at 10:00 a.m. at the Gilman Road parking area. Rain date will be the next day, Sunday the 27th.
 - 9. **VTrans Vermont Walk/Bike Summit** – So far none of the TC members can attend the early April Summit.
 - 10. **Committee Vacancy** – We still have one vacancy and continue to be in discussions with two people who have shown interest.
 - 11. **Record Articles** – George is writing the one for the April issue (deadline April 5th,) and Peter will write the one for the May issue (deadline May 10th).
 - 12. **Other Business**
 - a. Since it has been so warm and rainy recently, the trails are becoming very muddy so it was decided to close them until they had a chance to dry out. Lenore will print up more "Closed for Mud Season" signs. Ray and George will put them up.
 - b. Lenore reported that the Hinesburg Land Trust would like a kiosk at the Lewis Creek entrance to the LHTF and asked if Ray would build one for them. He agreed to do so and Oren offered to help.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20th.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Sheldon, Secretary