



Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes - May 18, 2016

- Approved 8/17/16 -

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

Guest: Chic McArthur

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Chic McArthur was welcomed and introduced as a potential new member of the committee.
2. **Minutes** – Oren made a motion to accept the minutes from the April meeting, George seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.
3. **Budget** – Lenore has purchased two loppers and flagging tape for \$70.47. The amount remaining in our 2015 fiscal budget is now \$869.98, \$519.49 of which must be used by June 30th.
4. **Mill Site Green Up** – Trails Committee (TC) members joined the Hinesburg Historical Society to help clean up the 19th century mill site at the end of Mill Street. They were able to clear a rough path to the water and laid out places to put the signage. There is an old car which needs to be removed. George will check with Burnetts Towing to see if they will pull it out for the cost of the scrap metal. We are still checking property boundaries.
5. **Update on Bridges in the LaPlatte Headwater Town Forest (LHT)** – Oren and Peter VanVranken picked up the 6” x 6” lumber to be used for puncheons. Peter V is getting 2” planks for decking from Renewable NRG. Peter V also has palettes to be used for one of the bridges. Oren gave a cost estimate of decking for two bridges at \$150, and \$225 for lumber for the longer bridge. There will also be incidental costs like nails.
6. **National Trails Day** –
 - a. **LHTF** – The materials for the bridge project will be delivered to the Gilman Rd parking area before June 4th. (Who?) On that day the volunteers will carry the supplies in to the work sites, unless Peter V or Ray can get them in by trailer/tractor. The smaller bridge will be built that day. The longer bridge will be a later project.

- b. Team Leaders** – Sue will be the leader to bring volunteers to the LHTF, George to the Russell Trails, and either Peter M or Jane will be the leader for Geprags.
 - c. Communications** – Jane will contact all those on the volunteer list and also post another notice on FPF. She has heard from 3 people so far, and Chic has also agreed to volunteer.
- 7. Story Walk** – Peter Modley, Stewart and Maria Tenney-Lawyer from Annette’s Preschool, have placed the stakes and book pages in Geprags for the StoryWalk project.
- 8. Geprags Mowing** – Sue contacted three mowing services for bids on mowing the Geprags trails at least once a year. James Bell from Envirotrack had done mowing there before for the Audubon society and gave a quote of \$500 - \$700 for two days’ work, including the Northwest trail. Wyatt from Vincrest Lawncare quoted \$450/day and estimated two days’ work. The third service has not provided a quote yet. Sue will talk to Alison Lesure of the Conservation Commission (CC) to see what budget they have for mowing and provide her with these bids.)
- 9. Coordination Among Committees** – We need to remember to liaise with the various groups who have responsibilities for the various trail areas (Town Forest Committee [TFC], Hinesburg Land Trust [HLT], Conservation Commission, VT Fish and Wildlife, Fellowship of the Wheel) before we do any work or make any decisions in these areas. For National Trails Day we need to alert the TFC and CC that we will be doing projects at LaPlatte and Geprags respectively. Lenore will contact Pat Mainer of the TFC to invite them to participate, and Sue will mention it to Alison Lesure of the CC.
- 10. Brochure** – Oren showed us the revised map, which is larger and will fill one side of the redesigned brochure. Lenore handed out the text for us to review before the next meeting. We are to send her any suggestions before then. The numbers on the map need to be revised to correspond to the text.
- 11. Spring Event** – The start time for the Bird Walk in Geprags this Saturday, which Lenore is leading, has been changed to 7:00 a.m.
- 12. Estimate for Ravine Trail Crossing** – Lenore has contacted Josh Ryan of Timber and Stone, and he will meet with her to see the project so he can give us an estimate.
- 13. Russell Bridge** – The bridge on the Russell Trails near Harry Russell’s house needs to be repaired. Ray and Stewart measured it and estimated a cost of \$210 if we do the job ourselves. Ray will recruit help as needed. We can retain the steel rails but all the wood needs to be replaced. Four people will be needed to demolish it one day. Replacing the wood will require a second day. Stewart will purchase the wood and bring it to the location before he leaves for Maine.

- 14. Dog Waste** – An ongoing problem, George reported that dog waste has started to be left in a hole in the bridge that crosses the canal on Mechanicsville Road. He will post a reminder on FPF that dog walkers are required to bring out any dog waste from any trail, path, park or sidewalk.

- 15.** Ray reported that someone from the VT Land Trust called Pat Mainer asking about a proposed parking area on the north side of the LHTF. She asked if the TC knew anything about it, but we do not. Lenore will talk to Pat for more info.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 15th.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Sheldon, Secretary