



## Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg  
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### Meeting Minutes - November 16, 2016

- Approved 1/18/17 -

**Present:** Ray Mainer, Jane Sheldon, Peter Modley, Sue Rusten, Chic McArthur, Stewart Pierson, Oren Guttman, and George Dameron

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

- 1. Addition to Agenda** – Stewart added new easement possibilities.
- 2. Minutes** – Sue made a motion to accept the draft minutes from last month’s meeting, Ray seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Budget** – Stewart reported that the only change from last month was an expenditure of \$110 for rope, which he has installed along the Ravine Trail, to aid hikers on the steepest parts of that trail. This expense brings the total available funds to \$1003.64.
- 4. Draft Town Management Plan** – Lenore had sent out via email a list of changes she would suggest to both the Trail Network Vision Map 13 and the Town Management Plan. Peter had also circulated some ideas and possible corrections. All agreed with these recommendations. Jane offered to merge all the suggestions into one document with the help of Lenore and Peter.
- 5. Dogs** – George reported that he had attended the recent Conservation Commission’s (CC) meeting to discuss the issue of dogs, unleashed and not cleaned up after, in Gegrags Park. The CC had been discussing this topic in the past. They said that there is a rule that all dogs must be leashed in that park, though it is not in the town ordinance or posted at the park itself. The CC had also discussed banning dogs from there entirely, but felt it would not be feasible. The fenced in dog park idea had been abandoned due to cost constraints. The CC has promised to continue to work on this issue and George will liaise with them to see if any changes are made.
- 6. NE Quadrant** – Chic reported that the area we are calling the NE Quadrant (the intersection of North Road, Magee Hill Road and Pond Brook Road) actually is formally named Rhode Island Corners. We agreed that no signage or map changes can be done until spring at which time we

also hope to get a confirmation from Eli Enman that we can post the Ski Lodge Rd as a HART trail.

7. **HLT Easement for Gillespie Parcel** – Lenore has sent a copy of the permanent trail easement for the Hinesburg Land Trust ("Gillespie") parcel to Trevor for adoption by the Select Board. With the permission and cooperation of HLT, the Committee has been maintaining public trails on the property for years, but there was no written agreement.
8. **Trail Maintenance** – Sue reported that we have received permission from the Town Forest Committee to make improvements on the Bissonette loop in the LPHTF. We will discuss what materials need to be purchased in time to use this as one of the National Trails Day projects next year. The Overlook Trail still has a fallen branch over the path. George offered to see if he can remove it without a power saw.
9. **Record Article** – Sue has submitted the article for December, Oren will write one for January and Chic offered to write the one for the February issue. The deadlines have changed a bit since the printing of the last issue so they will be confirmed at the next meeting.
10. **Other Business** – Stewart reported that some easements may be able to be acquired to gain access to the cliffs above LaVigne Hill, but as it was in the early stages the details will be discussed at a later date.
11. **Next Meeting Date** – Chic asked if the December meeting could be moved from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> to avoid the busy approach to the Christmas holiday. Jane will check to see if the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room will be available that day and with Lenore to make sure she is available and will be able to climb the stairs by then.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jane Sheldon, Secretary