



Town Forest Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
802.482.2281 | hinesburg.org

Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2016

- Approved 5/12/16 -

Present: Mike Potvin, Corinne Johansson, Pat Mainer, Steve Russell, Julie Gruenholz, Brent Francis, Chris Haviland, and Stewart Pierson

Absent: Kevin Hans

Guests: Paul Zwynenburg

Call to Order

Pat Mainer called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:05 pm on April 13, 2016, in the Town Hall.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

None

Discussion/Approval of March Minutes

Steve moved to approve the minutes of March 09, 2016. Stewart seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Brent reported that the Regular Account has a -\$36.07 balance, the Capital Fund Account has a \$1,659.03 balance and the Deferred Account has a \$2,523.59 balance. Stewart moved to approve the treasurer's report. Steve seconded. The treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

Updates

- **Boundary marking plan**
Brent reported that he will paint the rest of the Hollis boundary next week. Chris and Mike said that they would help Brent work on painting the HTF boundary in the next few weeks.
- **Communication with schools**
Brent reported that he would talk to his CVU contact about helping on Town Forest Service Projects. His contact will disseminate information to the science departments in surrounding schools.
- **Wildlife/Forest/Recreation Inventory of HTF**
Brent reported that he talked to Keith Thompson (Chittenden County Forester) about getting more direction on developing a Wildlife/Forest/Recreation

Inventory Scope so an inventory can be conducted in the HTF. Keith sent an email with a summary of what the inventory should include and offered to give us further direction in a consulting role. This information will allow us to write a specific scope as to what the inventory should include.

Keith told Brent that: "We need to become educated as to what our assets are and what our risks are."

Brent got the impression that the county foresters have so many tasks to complete that they don't have time to conduct an inventory of the HTF, but can offer consulting support if we hire someone else to do the inventory.

Brent and Corrine will both get a list of potential people who we could hire to do the inventory.

Brent will ask Keith about stands of trees that were previously identified as being ready to harvest.

- **UVM communications**

Pat talked Margaret Burke about UVM students doing projects in our forests. Margaret said that there is a way to submit requests that could be accomplished in one semester.

Pat proposed that we create a subcommittee to draw up requests to pitch to UVM.

Corrine, Chris and Pat volunteered to be on this subcommittee.

- **Kiosk at the Economou Road trailhead**

Stewart reported that the old Economou Road kiosk will be removed this Saturday.

- **Contact with new County Forester**

Pat was not able to get any information as to who the new County Forester will be. We will have to wait until he/she starts in June.

- **Tree Farm status**

Steve will find out about the HTF Tree Farm Status by next meeting.

- **LHTF boundary marks**

Stewart is still looking into the status of the LHTF boundary marks.

- **Arrowwood Environmental "vernal pool" doc**

No one was able to find this document, but there are still possibilities that previous committee members have a copy.

Corrine will contact Arrowwood Environmental to see if we can get a copy from them directly.

New Business

- **Event at LHTF on Thursday June 30**

This event is supposed to be sponsored by the HTFC, among others.

Mike Schneider will give a presentation at this event.

Steve, Corinne and Pat volunteered to coordinate with Lenore Budd to help set this up.

- **Matt Sayre's trees**

Brent moved that we will respond to Matt's request as follows: "Matt can plant trees anywhere on his land and we caution that if there are trees planted on

the town easement they may need to be removed in the future.” Chris seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- **Meeting night for the committee**

Mike moved to change our meeting night to the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. Corrine seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- **Roles of Town Forest and Trails Committees**

This item has been tabled until next month.

- **Invasives in LHTF**

This item has been tabled until next month.

- **WhiteTail Landscaping work on the Eagle's Trail.**

This item has been tabled until next month.

Other Business

None

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2016, 7:00 p.m., in the Town Hall.

Adjournment

Stewart moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Pat adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Gruenholz