



Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2017

- Draft -

Members Present: Marie Ayer, Bill Baker, Michael Bissonette, Meg Handler (late arrival), Bob Hyams, Kate Kelly, George LaClair, Bill Marks, Stacy Riley

Meeting called to order 7:05 p.m.

Marie Ayer asked to amend last meetings minutes to reflect Bob S. not present at last meeting.

Bill Motion to approve minutes, Marie A Second. Motion carried.

Vermont Land Trust and Joe Donegan gave a presentation regarding O'Neil farmland preservation. With Mr. Donegan to purchase land at OPAV for dairy farming

Mike B asked selling easement would impact grand list

Joe D no impact on tax revenue to town

George L asked about access for hunting.

Bill B asked of town did donate \$10,000 toward project would Joe D agree not to post the property?

Riparian buffers we discussed, that no farm activities could take place within the allotted space along the Laplatte River.

Marie Ayer noted that the town plan outlines the hope for establish a trail along the border of the O'Neil property for a connective train.

Mike B made a motion to “support the approval of \$10,000 from the Town of Hinesburg from the land acquisition fund to support Mr. Donegan in his acquisition of the O'Neil farm”. George L Second. Approved 8-1.

Jane Sheldon from the Trails Committee discussed what roles the Trails Committee and the Conservation Commission should take in managing the trails at Geprags Park.

- Trail Closures – TC
- Routing of Trails – TC

- Boundary Markings of the Park – CC
- Mowing of Trails – CC
- Plowing and Maintenance of Parking Lot – CC
- Materials for Kiosk – CC
- Setting Dog Policy – CC
- Blazing – CC

Trails Committee asked to be allowed to give input into the Management Plan of Geprags Park.

Bill M nominated Bob S to be chair of Conservation Commission. Meg Second.

Bob S nominated Mike B to be chair of Conservation Commission. George Second.

Michael B was elected chair 5-4.

Bill M nominated Bill B for secretary. Marie Ayer Second. Motion carried 9-0.

Bill B nominated Stacy R secretary of Conservation Commission. Bill M second. Motion carried 9-0.

Bill B motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Baker