



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

Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2017
Hinesburg Town Hall, 3rd floor conference room – 7:00 PM

Members present: Kate Kelly, Michael Bissonette
Attendees/ Guests: George Dameron, Kathy Karg

Call to order

There was not a quorum present With only two members present. Therefore there was only discussion.

Additions/Deletions to agenda

None

Kathy Karg- Dog Park group - Discussion about placement of a dog park in the Geprag Park Meadow. Kathy will come to the August meeting. Questions offered for discussion:

- Where other sites considered?
- Location of the dog area.
- How many dogs will use the park?
- How will a park impact native plants and animals in the park?
- How will the park be funded?
- What are the plans for maintance of the park?
- Does the planned placement effect wetlands?
- How will the fencing be setup? Sally port?
- Have you started fund raising?
- How will the poop be controlled
- Is the parking lot big enough?

Walk around Geprag park

Mowing in Geprag's Park

Continued discussion mowing in the park. Will continue to look into hiring someone to mow the park this year.

Also discussion about possibly have the trail mowing included with the Town mowing contract.

UVM Pollinator study - Below is a portion of an email Michael received:

University of Vermont

I am a researcher at the University of Vermont, and I received your contact information from Jennifer McCuin. I study the ecology and conservation of native pollinators, and I



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wanted to inquire about the possibility of working in meadows at Geprags Park for a new project that I am developing. This project will examine how native bee declines influence Vermont's local ecosystems. For this work, I hope to visit and survey meadows every 1-2 weeks during the summer of 2017. Work will involve catching and identifying bees and surveying meadow plants in a low impact, nondestructive way. This work will provide important information about the current status and ecological roles of Vermont's native bees, which are critical pollinators of both native plants and agricultural crops. It will also contribute to the development of conservation and management plans to help protect bee populations in the face of declines.

Please let me know if working at Geprags Park is a possibility. If you are interested, please reply by the end of next week, if possible, as I hope to establish my research sites soon. I would value the chance to work with you on this project.

Melanie Kazenel
Ph.D. Student & Graduate Teaching Fellow
Department of Biology

Treasurer's report- Update about money received from VT gas for Geprag's park.

Forum- One on one open discussion. Topics included:

- Goals of the board
- Budget planning working with other Town commissions and committees.
- Working to improve distribution of Conversation Commission materials.
- The Vermont Association of Conversation Commissions is holding their 2017 Summit in Starksboro this year. The date is September 23 from 8:30 to 3:30 at Common Ground.

Approval of Minutes

- May 23, 2017- moved to next meeting

Nature Notes

- Flock of 4 Egrets seen together on Charlotte road.
- Report given about a snake monitoring project in Lincoln.

Adjourn

8:15 pm