



## Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg  
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### Meeting Minutes – August 16, 2017

- Approved 9/20/17 -

**Present:** Jane Sheldon, Chic McArthur, Lenore Budd, George Dameron, Peter Modley, Ray Mainer (7:35-8:05 p.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

- 1. Minutes** – George made a motion to accept the draft minutes from the June meeting, Chic seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.
- 2. Budget** – Since the last meeting we have started the new fiscal year budget so our available funds are \$750. Lenore asked if we had any upcoming expenses. George asked if we have any saws other than chain saw that could take care of larger branches. Jane suggested a reciprocating saw would be a possibility.
- 3.** Howdy Russell had been on the agenda but was not able to attend. His topic will be added to the September agenda.
- 4. Conservation Commission (CC) Meeting** – Lenore had attended the August meeting because there had been a few items on the agenda concerning Geprags Park. The dog park discussion was tabled due to the proponent not attending. Mark Lebarr from the Vermont Audubon reviewed the history of managing Geprags for shrub land birds and habitat management needs going forward. The CC is incorporating those needs in the trail mowing and brush hogging services they are seeking from local landscaping contractors.
- 5. Mead Trail Easement** – The easement has been recorded for the portion of the Passing the Buck Trail on Susan Mead's property. Lenore will work with Stewart and Julie Pierson when they get back in town to get an easement from them.
- 6. Dog Park** – George passed around the plan for Geprags which had been presented by Kathy Karg at the July CC meeting. Lenore will make copies and email it out to all.
- 7. Gillespie Trail Closure** – The last Saturday in July several TC members were able to clear the new trail and close the short cut through the ravine. The rope has been removed and the old trail

blocked. Lenore was able to put up HART blazes on the reroute and Chic went back a few days later to finish raking the remainder of the trail.

8. **Update on Project List** – Several items were taken off the list since June. Remaining projects of priority are:
  - a. **Russell Trails** – Lop/brush cut spur trail to Buck Hill Road; install puncheon on east side of property; lop perimeter trail; check on conditions on Sullivan Trail from Thistle Hill.
  - b. **Geplogs** – Organize a lopping session (subsequent visit by Jane found this may not be required)
  - c. **Hinesburg Town Forest** – Scope out specs for repairing Economou Road entrance (also Buck Hill Parking area for Russell Trails) to develop an RFP; improve drainage on Eagle’s Trail between two bridges.
  - d. **LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest** – install puncheons in Bissonette loop and Hidden Meadow; check entrance path to Hidden Meadow from Gilman Road parking area to see if more corduroy is needed (rain-dependent).
  - e. **Passing the Buck** – lopping and brush cutting; finish getting easements from landowners: scout trail to get to High Rock overlook
  - f. **Northeast Quadrant** – Check Sleepy Hollow ski center’s kiosk to see if the signage is clear that HART trails are free to use. (Chic offered to visit and take a photo, also refill map holder)
  - g. **Bissonette Field Trail** – When fields are in use next spring, mow trail from Route 116 to fields and work to get developer to extend sidewalk over Patrick Brook.
  - h. **Other** – Work with Planning Commission to include trails on town’s official map; update website and brochure, continue pursuing Mill Site Trail from cemetery
  
9. **Brochure** – Sue and Oren are working on finalizing the changes. We still plan on offering them to medical offices in town.
  
10. **Mill Site** – George and Peter will walk in from the cemetery this fall with Ann Thomas to see if there is any possibility of accessing this historical area from that point.
  
11. **Fun Run** – Chic reported that he has been trying to liaise with Oren, but that they are now looking at possibly an October date. Another possibility is to coordinate with the Fall Festival. Chic will contact Jen McCuin to see if this is of interest to the Rec Dept.
  
12. **Fall Festival** – The TC has not been asked to set up and staff an information table this year.
  
13. **Record Articles** – Lenore is writing the one for the September issue. She will see if Ray would write one for October. Peter will write the next one needed (October or November).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jane Sheldon, Treasurer