



Town Forest Committee

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

Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2017

- Approved 4/13/17 -

Present: Pat Mainer (Chair), Corinne Johansson, Stewart Pierson, Brent Francis, Chris Haviland

Absent: Julie Gruenholz, Kevin Hans, Steve Russell

Guests: Ethan Tapper, Darren Johnson

Call to Order: Pat called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:34 pm on March 9, 2017.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

NONE

Public Comment

NONE

UVM Student Proposal - Nicholas Marinelli, Travis Bobley

Travis and Nicholas gave an oral presentation of the plans for their survey “Effects of Recreational Use on Hinesburg Town Forest”

Discussion/Approval of February 9, 2017 Minutes

Corrine moved to approve the minutes of February 9, 2017. Stewart seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Brent reported that other than the pending initial payment to Long Meadow Resource Management for the Inventory Contract, there were no changes. The most recent report stated that there is a total of \$6,182.32 in the HTF account which includes \$1,500 in the annual maintenance line, \$2,523.59 in deferred, and \$2,159.03 in the capital fund. \$1,500 will be paid shortly to LMRM. Stewart moved and Chris seconded to approve this report. The motion was unanimously approved.

Updates:

- **RFP/Contract for Inventory:** Pat will contact LMRM and request that they attend the April meeting. Work to be starting April/May.
- **CVU Students Ideas for Signs for Safety and Behavior:** Brent reported no new activity related to the CVU connection. Some committee members noted that there have been no reports of

problems in the HTF parking lots within the last year and no reports from HPD. Committee members will look for sign ideas

- **Butternut & Apple Tree Release in the HTF:** Brent reported no new activity. He also noted we should look into brush hogging the areas that have been previously discussed.
- **Ammendments to Management Plans (Pat):** The ammendments approved by the committee have not gone before the select board yet. Pat will bring them to the Select Board.
- **Invasive Info for Kiosks:** Corrine found <vtinvasives.org> and several ideas were discussed for posting information at the kiosks. Several ideas for discussed for publicizing mapping programs that visitors could use to report invasives that they observed. Further discussion required.

New Business:

- **Maple Sugaring in HTF.** Ethan Tapper said he could use the data from the upcoming inventory to further explore the feasibility of a sugaring operation in the HTF.
- **Proposals for Spending for \$250,000 From VT Gas:** Corrine pointed out that the case is under appeal and it is not certain that the \$ would ever be available. Brent recommended cleaning up invasive species in Geprags Park. Pat recommended \$ be used for educating town residents about invasive species. It was pointed out that Geprags has such a massive invasive species problem that it could be used as a centerpiece for education. Also discussed was discussed was utilizing some of the \$ towards conserving the HTF.

Next Meeting: April 13, 2017, 7:00, Town Hall Lowest level conference room

Adjournment: Corrine moved to adjourn the meeting. Chris seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Pat adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Haviland