



Town Forest Committee

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

Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2017

- Approved 6/08/17 -

Present: Pat Mainer (Chair), Corinne Johansson, Brent Francis, Chris Haviland, Steve Russell

Absent: Julie Gruenholz, Kevin Hans, Stewart Pierson, Aaron Townsend

Guests: Ethan Tapper (Chittenden County Forester), Nicholas Marinelli, Adeline Clayton, Travis Bobley, Harris Roen of Long Meadow Resource Management

UVM Students' Presentation On Recreation In The HTF

UVM students (Nicholas Marinelli, Adeline Clayton, and Travis Bobley) gave an oral presentation to accompany their report “Impacts of Outdoor Recreation – Hinesburg Town Forest.” Committee members commented on and questioned the findings in the report.

Call to Order

Pat called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:40 pm on May 11, 2017.

Initial Report by Long Meadow Resource Management

Harris gave an overview of his process and some of his expectations for the Inventory Study. He also had some questions regarding boundaries and previous inventories or studies involving the HTF which Steve and Brent were able to help with. Harris wanted to make the committee aware that some of the goals of previous plans may no longer be applicable.

Dell's Ride

Ben Johnson and his team came to request the use of the HTF for third annual Dell's Ride charity mountain bike ride to benefit Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood. Ride is planned for August 27th with a weather backup date of Sept. 17th. Steve moved to approve the ride, Corrine seconded. The motion was approved.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: NONE

Public Comment: NONE

Discussion/Approval of April 13, 2017 Minutes

Corrine moved to approve the amended minutes of April 13, 2017. Chris seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Brent reported that there is a total of \$4682.62 in the HTF account which includes \$0 in the annual maintenance line, \$2,523.59 in deferred, and \$2,159.03 in the capital fund. Steve moved and Corrine seconded to approve this report. The motion was unanimously approved.

Updates:

- **Recreation Planning Grant Application:** Steve, Chris and Pat worked on the application previously. Steve moved to apply for the Town Forest Recreation Planning Community Assistance Program grant. Corrine Seconded. The motion was approved.
- **Tree Planting on the LHTF Flood Plain:** Pat walked with Andrea Morgante. It looks like a third of the trees planted around 2010 are dead. A third are small and not doing well. Andrea questioned whether a new planting was a good use of resources. More study is needed to determine the worth of the project and finding someone who can advise on what to plant and where.
- **Ideas for Signs:** Brent brought the images that we had previously discussed to school for the digital imaging class to work on and make improvements.
- **Butternut & Apple Tree Release In The HTF And Brush Hogging:** No progress as yet. Too wet. Brent suggested that the committee explore issuing an RFP. Steve suggested that if the cost was under \$1000 we might decide to avoid that process. Brent felt strongly that a piece of equipment with a grinding mechanism is what's required. Brent will contact Jesse Labrecque again about walking the subject areas and getting a price.
- **Amendments to Management Plans:** Approved by the Select Board
- **Ethan's Invasive App:** I-Naturalist app is available. Committee members can try the app and then discuss posting info at trailheads encouraging use by visitors.
- **Honeysuckle in HTF:** Pat and her husband did an eradication project.
- **Boundary Marking:** No activity. Chris got the paint from Steve.
- **Summer meeting availability:** It looks like a quorum for the July and August meetings may be questionable.

Next Meeting: June 8, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Lowest Level Conference Room

Adjournment: Steve moved to adjourn the meeting. Chris seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Pat adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Haviland