



## Trails Committee

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

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### Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2018

- Approved 3/22/18 -

Present: Jane Sheldon, Stewart Pierson, Lenore Budd, George Dameron, Sue Rusten, Ray Mainer, Oren Guttman, Peter Modley, Chic McArthur

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

1. **Minutes** – Sue made a motion to accept the minutes from the December meeting, Ray seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.
2. **Budget** – There have been no expenditures since the December meeting so the balance of our funds remains at \$688.
3. **Update on Passing the Buck Parking** – Lenore has submitted the grant application and we expect to hear in April whether we will get it.
4. **Update on VT Fish & Wildlife License** – Chic has been in touch with the VTF&W and is working on finalizing the agreement.
5. **Task List** – We reviewed the list of projects on our to-do list and added the following to those we can organize on National Trails Day (June 2<sup>nd</sup>) this year.
  - a. **Russell Trail** – Install puncheon on muddy part of E side of the loop, brush cut and lop spur trail to Buck Hill Road, reroute steep portion of Overlook Trail and bench the trail directly north of the big bridge and farm road.
  - b. **Geprags Park** – Organize lopping crew and cut the approved relocation on the NE portion of the perimeter trails.
6. **Task List – Other**
  - a. **Russell Trail**
    - i. Improve drainage on SE portion of perimeter trail. This might be something with which we could get help from the VYCC.
    - ii. Improve Buck Hill Road parking area – Stewart will check with James Donegan that the bales of hay stored there would not be blocked from removal if cars parked in

front of them, and check to make sure we have his permission to put up a brown “hiker” sign.

- b. Thistle Hill Trails** – The Sullivan Trail and the Class IV portion of the Lavigne Hill have drainage problems. Oren and Lenore will scout them out and see if they would be appropriate for a VYCC project.
- c. Passing the Buck** - Landowners have been contacted regarding easements and Lenore is following up.
- d. Geprags** – George will contact the Conservation Commission to see if they have finished their schedule for maintenance, and if so get a copy.
- e. Hinesburg Town Forest**
  - i. Ray will organize a work crew to clear the blowdown on the Eagle’s Trail north of Economou Parking.
  - ii. Lenore will discuss the need to grade the Economou entrance with the Town Forest Committee and Fellowship of the Wheel, and if we need to have this as a trailhead at all.
  - iii. Oren and Ray will assess the area between the two bridges to determine whether puncheons or corduroy is the best solution
- f. LaPlatte Headwaters**
  - i. Sue will follow up with Pete VanVranken to see if we will be able to get lumber for puncheons from NRG for the Bissonette Loop, or whether we should purchase it ourselves.
  - ii. Lenore, Pat Mainer and Andrea Morgante will follow up with the landowner for the N/S trail connection.
- g. Northeast Quadrant** – Nothing to do until the trails reopen in May.
- h. Other**
  - i. Lenore will continue working with Alex to include trails on the town-wide Official Map.
  - ii. Jane will check with Jen and Renae to see if an opening date for the Rec fields has been set, and then contact Joe Bissonette to schedule mowing of the path from Route 116.
  - iii. Stewart will approach the medical offices in town to see if they will display our HART trails brochure.
  - iv. Oren will follow up with Ethan Tapper, Chittenden Country Forester, about possible partnerships and grant opportunities to improve the Class IV portion of Hayden Hill Road and other stretches of Class IV roads of interest to the Committee.

**7. Trail Easement List and Map** – Alex and Lenore have put together a draft map where all the trails easements in town are shown as well as a list of descriptions. The map and list are drafts, which Lenore and Alex will continue to update. We may want to send thank you notes to land owners each year. Sue offered to draft the text and asked for ideas or photos for the stationery.

**8. Town Forest Committee Vision Meeting** – A survey has been sent out and is being tabulated. Oren is on the steering committee and they plan to meet again in May to review the results.

**9. Upcoming Events**

**a. May Bird Banding in Geprags** – Sue will follow up with Margaret Fowle at Audubon Vermont and coordinate with the Conservation Commission.

**b. National Trails Day** – This June 2<sup>nd</sup> event will be discussed at upcoming meetings.

**c. Old Home Week** – The town is looking for event for the days between June 30<sup>th</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup>. Chic and Oren will organize a Fun Run for one of those days. Also Lenore will contact Annette's Preschool to organize another Story Walk at this time.

**10. Record Articles** – George is writing the one for March. We still need a volunteer for the April 26<sup>th</sup> issue, due by April 12<sup>th</sup>.

**11. Dog Ordinance** – George will draft a 4-point summary of the Dog Ordinance to be put on a card that the Town Clerks will give to dog owners when they register each year.

The meeting was adjourned 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>. 2018

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jane Sheldon, Secretary