



## Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg  
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### Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2018

Approved 6/20/18

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

- 1. Minutes** – Ray made a motion to accept the minutes from the April meeting, Stewart seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.
- 2. Budget** – There have been no expenses since last month so our funds remain at \$638.03.
- 3. Passing the Buck Trailhead Parking** – Lenore reported that we did not get the grant from the state to build this parking area. We will need to raise \$4000 or get the town highway department to do it. One fundraiser idea mentioned was to see if the Hinesburgh Public House will sponsor us at one of its benefit dinners. Lenore will check with Mike Anthony to see if the highway crew will be able to do this and if so, when.
- 4. Draft 2017 Supplement to the Hinesburg Town Forest (HTF) Management Plan** – The plan has two recommendations in which the Trails Committee would like to be involved; signage improvement and opening at least two views. Chic offered to liaise with the Town Forest Committee (TFC) to coordinate with the Fellowship of the Wheel to try to match the signs with the maps, and make intersections more clearly marked. Peter offered to liaise with the TFC to identify the areas which can be cut out to provide views of Camel's Hump and the town. Some timber harvesting may be started as early as this fall so we may be able to work with the Town Forester to get the work done then.
- 5. Economou Road Entrance** – When the timber harvesting does occur the equipment will be going in and out of the HTF via Economou Road. Lenore will contact Pat Mainer to see if Economou Road and trailhead improvements can be included in the logging contract. Sue mentioned that the section of the Eagle's Trail may also need to be closed while the harvesting is done for safety reasons.

6. **Rec Field Path** - Lenore has gotten the approval for a revision in the path with Joe Bissonette, from the one that Jane and he had laid out last fall. Lenore will purchase posts on which to place temporary signs showing the route from the fields to Route 116. Joe has offered to mow the initial route but we will need to figure out what makes the most sense for mowing long term. Chic will brush cut the berm where the mower won't be able to mow.
7. **Purchases Needed before National Trails Day** – The two projects where materials will need to be purchased before June 2<sup>nd</sup> are for puncheons on the Russell Trail and Bissonette Loop in the LaPlatte Headwater Town Forest (LHTF). The amounts authorized were \$250 for Ray to purchase the wood for the Russell Trails and \$300 for Sue and Peter VanVranken to purchase the wood for the Bissonette Loop. Ray will see if James Donegan can use his tractor to get the materials into the site on the Russell Trails and Sue will check that Peter V can use his for moving the materials to the Bissonette Loop.
8. **Other Projects for National Trails Day** –
  - a. **Russell Trails** – Oren will lead the team to reroute the Overlook Trail and benching the trail north of the big bridge and farm road.
  - b. **Geprag's** – Lenore will lead a team to move the trail away from the property line at the northeast corner of the perimeter trail and lopping brush if needed.
  - c. **LaPlatte** – Sue mentioned that there are some places that need trenching for drainage but it was decided to concentrate on the loop improvement for now.
  - d. **Pizza** - Peter offered to coordinate getting the pizza.
9. **LaPlatte Signage** – Jane mentioned that the small signs at the back of the Gilman Road parking lot, showing that horses and ATVs are prohibited and dogs should be leashed, would be more affective if moved closer to the entrance. Sue offered to check places to add larger signs.
10. **Upcoming Events** –
  - a. **Old Home Week** – George will lead an historical walk on Sunday, July 1st at 10 a.m., meeting at the town hall and walking to the Russell Trails. Chic said that he will be getting the information to Frank Twarog who will be putting out publicity on this event.
  - b. **Story Walk** – Lenore had been in contact with Annette's Preschool and will follow up to see if they plan to organize it.
  - c. **July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade** – Too few of the TC members will be able to participate so we will skip marching this year.
  - d. **Golden Warbler** – The netting and banding in Geprag's is being held this weekend, weather permitting.
11. **Articles for the Record** – Jane will write the one for June and Lenore will do so for August issue.
12. **Maps** – Jane reviewed the responsibilities for map restocking
  - a. **Jane** – Hayden Hill West and Hayden Hill East entrances to the HTF

- b. **Peter** – Economou Road and Texas Hill entrances to the NE Quadrant
- c. **Chic** – Magee Hill and Sleepy Hollow entrances to the NE Quadrant
- d. **Stewart** – Russell Trails (Jane will fill in for July and August)
- e. **Sue** – Gilman Road and Lewis Creek Road entrances to the LHTF
- f. **George** – Geprag's Park

**13. Geprag's Mowing** – Wahl Landscaping has been contracted to mowing the fields. Lenore will check with Bob Hyams to see if the other trails will also be included, and obtain the schedule.

**14. Landowner Thank You Notes** – Tabled to next month's meeting.

**15. Entrance to Russell Trail** – Stewart reported that he had emailed James Donegan regarding the bales of hay at the Buck Hill entrance and subsequently saw that they have been removed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jane Sheldon, Secretary