



Town Forest Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes - November 8, 2018

- Draft -

Present: Pat Mainer (Chair), Jon Trefry, Aaron Miller, Brent Francis, Darren Johnson, Aaron Townsend

Absent: Chris Haviland, Corinne Johansson, Stewart Pierson

Visitors: Greg Ranallo, Katherine Ranallo

Call to Order: Pat called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:02 p.m. on November 8, 2018

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: None

Greg Ranallo - Proposed EAB Treatment Strategy: Committee received a proposal from Greg Ranallo regarding a tree adoption program for ash trees in the HTF and LHTF in advance of the arrival of the Emerald Ash Borer. Mr. Ranallo owns Teacher's Tree Service and is familiar with the impacts of the EAB in Midwest. He proposes stenciling trees in the town forests that are good candidates for adoption to build awareness. A private individual could choose to adopt a tree, in which case it would be inoculated with an insecticide. Each tree would need to be treated for 8-12 years at a cost of \$100/year. Programs goal would be to raise awareness of EAB and preserve seed trees for the next generation of ash.

Committee discussed a number of options to address EAB including proactive implementation of the management plan, managing to maximize ash regeneration, the above proposal, and others. Committee would like more information about the impacts of EAB and the treatment options available. Pat will talk to Ethan Tapper and respond to Mr. Ranallo.

Public Comment: None.

Discussion / Approval of September 13, 2018 Minutes: Aaron Townsend moved to approve the amended minutes of July 12, 2018. Pat Mainer seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Spent \$525 on protection sleeves for trees planted at LHTF. \$1500 performance bond from Tim Brown for logging project deposited into project accounts. Balance including performance bond is \$2864.73. \$1500 in the annual account.

Updates:

- Harvesting contract: Approved by the Select Board using Tim Brown of Hinesburg

- Agreement with Ethan Tapper and the Town: Approved by the Select Board
- HTF walk with Ethan Tapper on 12/16: Walk will take place after trees for harvest have been marked, exact time to be determined.
- Recreation study grant update: Received more use numbers and survey results. Will be shared with Committee.
- Steve Russell & Wayne Bissonette memorial: Discussion of a subscription to Northern Woodlands magazine, tree planting, and trail renaming as additional options for memorials. Aaron Townsend moves that the International trail be renamed to Steve's Trail and that a plaque be purchased for an amount not to exceed \$200. Darren seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Aaron Townsend moves that a plaque to memorialize Wayne Bissonette be purchased for the Bissonette Loop for an amount not to exceed \$200. Brent seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Vermont Woodlands Association Tree Farm program: Ethan Tapper will sign off on the certification
- TNC - LHTF floodplain forest restoration: No updates from TNC.
- LHTF Management Plan: No progress.
- Web page Clean Up: Waiting for a response from Aaron Kimball.

New Business:

- Vermont Outdoor Recreation Collaborative Pilot Community Grant Program 2018-19: Review and discuss at next meeting.
- Annual report submission: Pat will bring a draft to the next meeting to be approved for submission before the deadline.
- Carse Boundary: Jon shared that Rebecca Pellet is now managing the Carse Trust, and that the boundary may be better known to the trust. No response yet from contacted surveyors.

Next Meeting: December 13, 2018, 7:00, Town Hall Lowest level conference room

Adjournment: Jon moved to adjourn the meeting. Darren seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Pat adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Miller