Memorandum of Understanding

Purpose

This Memorandum of Agreement establishes the guidelines for collaboration between the **Hinesburg Town Forest Committee/Town of Hinesburg** and the **Fellowship of the Wheel** in the use of the Hinesburg Town Forest.

Parties

- **The Fellowship of the Wheel** is a non-profit that advocates for and maintains 100 miles (8 networks in 7 towns) of public multi-use trails (motorized vehicles and horses are prohibited) in Chittenden County, VT. It works with private and municipal landowners to create responsibly-built, sustainable trails for the greater community to enjoy their surrounding environment through recreation. Users are primarily mountain bikers, trail runners, walkers and snowshoers.

The FOTW has created network of trails for use by pedestrians and bicyclists in the Hinesburg Town Forest. The FOTW has created a digital map of the network, maintained the trails, applied for and received grants for the improvement of trails. It notifies its members of trail closures.

- **The Hinesburg Town Forest Committee** provides stewardship for both the 837-acre Hinesburg Town Forest (HTF) and the 301-acre LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest (LHTF). The Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Selectboard, Commissions, or Town staff as appropriate in matters relating to the HTF and LHTF, and in consultation with the Chittenden County Forester shall make recommendations to the Selectboard for management of the Town Forests.

Agreement(s)

The Fellowship of the Wheel will:

1. Educate trail stewards, volunteers and trail users on the Hinesburg Town Forest Management Plan's goals and objectives.

2. Monitor trail conditions and alert its members to wet conditions or other natural occurrences that may be harmful to the trails and forest and hunting season and special event closures.

3. Maintain existing trails throughout the year in agreement with the principles of the forest's management plan.

4. Continue to gain permission from the HTF before any new trails are built.

The Hinesburg Town Forest Committee will:

1. Share space in the trailhead kiosks with the FOTW for the purpose of communicating with trail users.

2. Notify the FOTW of any planned forest management activities that will impact the trail network.

3. Notify the FOTW of any concerns about its trails or their use.

4. Will encourage townsfolk who use the trails in the Town Forest regularly to volunteer for FOTW.

Meetings and Reporting

The FOTW will provide a written report about its season in the Hinesburg Town Forest annually by October 1. An FOTW representative will present at the October meeting of the Town Forest Committee.

Funding and Financial Responsibilities: -

Neither organization will have financial responsibility for the other.

Duration or Term of Memorandum and Termination Process

This MOU is at-will and may be modified with the mutual consent of the authorized individuals of the Hinesburg Town Forest Committee and The Fellowship of the Wheel.

Signatures with Date

Name Michael A. Potow

Organization Hinesburg Town Forest Committee

Title Chair

Date 1 April 2014

Name Steven Fischer DDS

Organization Fellowship of the Wheel

Title President

Date 4/1/14