



Town Forest Committee

Town of Hinesburg

10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461

802.482.2281 | www.hinesburg.org

Draft

Meeting Minutes July 14, 2022

Present: Pat Mainer (Chair), Chris Haviland, Jon Trefry, Brent Francis, Aaron Miller, Stevie Spencer, Kelsey Barklund, Thomas Marrinson

Absent:

Visitors:

Call to order: Pat Mainer called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:09 pm on July 14, 2022

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

Public Comment:

Discussion/Approval of June 9, 2022 minutes: Jon moved to approve the minutes. Aaron seconded. Aaron pointed out a few typos. The motion carried unanimously with the typing corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Jon moved to approve the interim report. Kelsey seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Appreciation for CPR re-route:** Proposal for a payment or other financial consideration for Chris Hill for his labor to re-route CPR where it came near his property. Some were uneasy with the fact that the work had not been previously voted for approval by the committee. Decision was made to send a note of appreciation to Chris Hill.
- **Closures for deer hunting:** Brent presented the adjusted dates for 2022 based on previous years. Discussion of whether to keep the closures going as the last few years, eliminating and going back to previous patterns or something else. Members voiced some ideas including closing some zones of the forest. Pat polled the committee. Opinions varied from scrapping the closure entirely to adjusting the dates and especially removing the early October dates. Decision was tabled to the August meeting.
- **Second kiosk for Lincoln Hill Rd trails:** Jon moved to fund the installation of two kiosks for the Lincoln Hill road access points, not to exceed \$500. Chris seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Trail names:** Committee discussed renaming the three new sections of trail built by FOTW last summer/fall currently contiguously named "Mainers Meander." Chris brought up the fact that the three

new sections do not meet end to end and expressed concern that this could present a safety issue if an individual was lost or injured somewhere because time could be lost trying to identify where the person is and how to most quickly reach them. Pat is also not a fan of the name for personal reasons. Several name options were discussed including those suggested by FOTW and several by committee members. Committee agreed to do a little research into options and table the subject to next meeting.

- **Mike Potvin's email and ash trees in the HTF:** Pat forwarded Mike's concern about ash trees along the edge of his boundary with the HTF that could be a danger to his home/property. Chris will reach out to Mike to see if he can identify trees of concern.

UPDATES:

- **E-bike study update:** FOTW sponsoring two demo days in July and August along with surveys
- **RTP Grant application:** Still in review
- **Stand 14:** No update
- **LHTF TNC project:** No update
- **LHTF US & VT Fish and Wildlife project:** No update
- **LHTF invasives treatment – scope and appropriation:** Ethan coming up with a proposal. Jon showed the LHTF map to point out the area where buckthorn and honeysuckle are on both sides of the boundary on some neighboring properties. Proposal is to allow treatment on both sides of the border line in these areas under the town funding.
- **Bat survey:** Pat participated. Survey was considered successful as Indiana Bats were observed.
- **Ash treatment by Ethan:** Ethan has treated seven trees near the HHE parking. They are marked with orange tape.
- **HTF Boundary painting (previous Carse property):** Stevie and Tom did the east section. Stevie wants to revisit the area when the leaves are off the trees. Boundary is also painted around the Hill's house. Aaron and Kelsey marked some of the western boundary.
- **HTF Deer exclosures:** No update
- **Inventory and Assessment for the Carse Addition:** No update
- **Habitat Stamp work proposal to improve habitat for the golden winged warbler:** No update
- **Signs near Ballin's land:** Kelsey posted the signs.

Next Meeting: August 11, 2022, 7:00 pm, at Hinesburg Town Hall and or Zoom.

Adjournment: Tom made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Aaron. Motion was approved unanimously at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Haviland