

Hinesburg Trails Committee
Minutes of June 16, 2021 Meeting
Held via Zoom

Approved

Present: Jane Sheldon, Chris Rivard, Peter Modley, Ray Mainer, Colin Hunt, Chic McArthur,

Regrets: Oren Guttmann, Nick Certo, Bret Gollan

Guests: Patterson Frazier

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Because Governor Scott lifted the Covid Emergency Order yesterday, after we had posted the meeting was to be via Zoom, we were not allowed to take any votes or make any substantive decisions tonight, due to the Open Meeting Laws.

Chic called for an in-person meeting next Wednesday, the 23rd at the town hall to make any decisions and vote on any issues. Jane will check with Joy to see which conference rooms will be available and post the meeting on FPF.

1. Minutes – Approving the minutes tabled until the meeting next week.
2. Budget – After the expenses of building materials for the Russell Trails “turnpike” and other National Trails Day costs, the TC has a balance of \$127.96 remaining. This amount will expire on June 30th if not used. Ray reminded us that there is also \$500 from the Town Forest Committee available, which has no expiration date.
3. National Trails Day Review – We all agreed that this year’s event went very well. Jane reported that organizing the volunteers was easier than usual, since people who responded showed up and brought their own tools. Chic complimented his team of volunteers who worked particularly hard on building the turnpike on the Russell Trails. Ray expressed his appreciation for his team who worked valiantly to cut through a particularly obstinate thicket. Jane recommended that next year we make sure we have decided on projects and materials two months ahead.
4. Town Forest Logging – Colin will continue to liaise with Ethan Tapper to monitor the logging efforts in the Hinesburg Town Forest. There may be some trail closures this month for a couple of days, which would require flagging alternate routes, but the trail head parking areas will be open. He suggested that we invite Ethan to one of our meetings to review the plans for logging later this summer.
5. Expenses for Finishing Russell Turnpike – Tabled until next week.

6. Easement for New Development on Russell Trails – Chic reported that there has been a change in the property boundary stakes which may require us to reroute the Buck Hill Spur entrance. Further discussion tabled until next week.
7. Summer Month Off – Chic mentioned that we have traditionally skipped a meeting in either July or August. Jane suggested we wait until the meeting next week to determine if we need to meet both months and if not, which would be the better for most TC members. Ray mentioned he would not be able to attend a meeting in July.
8. Eddy Property Trail Easement – Eddy Property Trail Easement – Peter reported that David Eddy is offering to provide a trail right of way on his properties on the Charlotte Rd, which comprise of three parcels. Peter had a good second discussion with him, in which he reaffirmed his plans for the easement. Just now, he is seeking preliminary DRB review of a proposed boundary adjustment between two of his parcels. David told Peter that he asked his surveyor to also mark the trail easement on the final survey that he will present to the DRB to record the proposed boundary change. Peter zoomed into the DRB meeting last night to alert the board of this development, thank David for his offer of an easement, and assure the DRB that David's proposed boundary change would have no adverse effect on the trail easement. David later emailed Peter his thanks for this support.
9. Record Article –Colin wrote a review of the TC's efforts on National Trails Day for this month's issue. Bret offered to write the one for the August issue (deadline= August 12th). There is no July issue published.
10. July 4th Parade – Jane suggested that the TC march in the parade this year if we can get enough members and/or other residents to join us. She will contact those volunteers from NTD to get a count of participation from them. Jane, Chic and Ray can be there. Peter, Chris and Colin said they would be out of town. Jane will check with Oren, Bret and Nick.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45. We will be meeting next Wednesday at 7:00 at the town hall for an ad hoc meeting. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for July 21st.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Sheldon, Secretary