Hinesburg Trails Committee

Minutes of June 23, 2021 Meeting

Approved

Present: Jane Sheldon, Peter Modley, Colin Hunt, Chic McArthur, Oren Guttmann

Regrets: Nick Certo, Bret Gollan, Chris Rivard, Ray Mainer

Guests: Patterson Frazier

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m.

This meeting was supplemental to the monthly scheduled one on June 16th.

1. Minutes – Peter made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 19th and June 16th meeting. Colin second and the motion was accepted unanimously.
2. Budget – The TC has a balance of $127.96 remaining. Chic recommended we spend this amount on materials needed to add an extension to the Russell Trail Turnpike, dipping into the $500 provided by the Town Forest Committee if needed. Oren made a motion to accept Chic’s recommendation, Jane seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Oren said he had some 4 by 4’s which would reduce the cost. Chic also suggested that we allocate up to $300 to purchase gravel for this project, once we had the $1000 funding for fiscal year 2021/22. Oren made a motion that we accept Chic’s suggestion, Chic seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.
3. Buck Hill Entrance to the Russell Trails Easement - There had been some changes to the property lines in the new development behind New South Farms which would affect the proposed easement from the parking area. Chic had asked James Donegan if we could make the easement coincide with the existing farm road and close the narrow trail which is consistently wet. Peter will liaise with the two adjacent property owners in that discussion.
4. Buck Hill Entrance to the Russell Trails Parking – Chic asked if the town could develop the parking area better, i.e. level it and add gravel. We have an easement for an area that would fit 3 cars, but even with Chic mowing it, the area is muddy enough to discourage a third parking spot. Peter reminded us that we would need a survey done and sketches drawn before any major improvements could be made. Colin will contact Alex to find out what steps are needed to accomplish this goal.
5. Eddy Easement – Peter reviewed his contact with David Eddy and the DRB. He explained that David was offering the easement 20’ outside of the right of way on the Charlotte Rd unrelated to his request to move the property boundary lines. This easement would connect to the one on Thad Halsmer’s property. Peter will contact David to see if we could start laying out the route, and mowing and prepping the pathway, for the purpose of working on both easements simultaneously. Oren will contact Thad to alert him to our plans.
6. Change in Day of Week and Time of Monthly Meeting – Jane asked if anyone had any objection to her checking with Joy to see if we could find a day of the week/week of the month so the TC could use the lower-level conference room. She will find which dates are available and contact the other members to see if there are any conflicts. Oren asked if we could also change the start time to 7:30, which Jane will include in her inquiry to the members.
7. July 4th Parade – Jane had not heard from everyone as to their availability and interest in marching in the parade this year. She, Ray and Chic were the only ones able to attend so far. Colin, Chris and Peter will not be able to join in, and Oren reported tonight that he won’t either. Since Chic mentioned that his plans are now uncertain, Jane will hold off inviting our volunteers until she hears from Bret and Nick.
8. Next Meeting – Chic suggested that we cancel the July meeting and set up a work part to finish the Russell Turnpike instead. Jane made a motion to do so, Oren seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for August 18th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Sheldon, Secretary