



Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2019

- Approved 7/17/19 -

Present: Jane Sheldon, Chic McArthur, Lenore Budd, Peter Modley, Ray Mainer, Bret Golann,

Regrets: George Dameron, Oren Guttmann, Nick Certo

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. **Minutes** – Peter made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Chic seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.
2. **National Trails Day Review** – Everyone agreed that it was a successful event. The turn-out was strong and we accomplished quite a bit. Lenore will send Jane and Bret the latest list of volunteers, some of whom were collected for the first time that day.
3. **Task List** – Due to the wet spring there have been a few projects we have not been able to start. These are the priority tasks once weather permits.
 - a. **Russell Trail Puncheon** – The path from the kiosk to the bridge will need more puncheons to cover that very muddy stretch. Ray will purchase the materials with the money left in this fiscal year's budget, approximately \$250.
 - b. **Lavigne Hill Road** – Lenore has arranged for the Vermont Youth Conservation Corp (VYCC) to improve the drainage on the Class IV section of this trail in August. She made a motion to provide the VYCC with \$300 from next year's budget for materials. Ray seconded and the motion was approved.
 - c. **Eagle's Trail** – Bret will lead the effort to clear brush, clean out water bars, and make some drainage improvements. He suggested evenings of Tuesday, July 9th or Thursday July 11th, or daytime Saturday the 13th. He will draft an email announcement for Lenore to send out to the volunteer list to recruit workers and will let us know which date gets the best response.
 - d. **Puncheon on Bissonnette Loop** – Nick will be asked to follow up with Peter VanVranken to schedule a work date for this project.
 - e. **Trail from Route 116 to the Rec Field** – Chic pointed out that this path has not been mowed recently, most likely due to muddy conditions. It will need to be done in order

for the developer of Hinesburg Center Phase II to be required to extend the sidewalk past Kinney Drugs and over Patrick Brook.

- f. **Richmond Road Sidewalk** – Andrea Morgante and Ray Nails have taken the lead on this effort. Lenore provided Andrea with a list of landowners along the corridor. Peter will liaise with Andrea to keep us updated on any progress.
4. **Carse Trail** – Lenore had met with Thad Halsmer, landowner where the easement is located, to discuss our plans to create a pedestrian trail. Subsequently she received an email with some questions about maintenance and liability, and he is asking for a written plan. Lenore will follow up with more information to the Halsmers to keep the project moving.
5. **Geprags/Library Link - Geprags/Library Link** – The new owner of Travia's, Tony St. Hillaire, met with Lenore to review the planned connection from his property to Geprags. Lenore did some preliminary scouting and marked out a possible route. The Conservation Commission had some suggestions. While initially checking the property lines Lenore met the connecting landowner, Dan Conley, and discussed the proposed trail with him. Later, she received an email from the Conleys expressing concern about how close the new trail would come to their property. Lenore was also contacted by Mr. St. Hillaire with questions about parking. There are other parking alternatives such as the library or the Food Shelf. We feel all the concerns can be addressed satisfactorily.
6. **Hinesburg Center Phase II** – We reviewed the map showing the plans for the next phase of this development, and need to put together a plan as to what we need from the developer re easements for pedestrian access. The Snow Beavers snowmobile club has been granted conditional access to a trail which follows the LaPlatte River past Lot 31, which needs to be renewed each year. The Town has an easement on Lot 31 for a pedestrian trail. Lenore suggested we meet with the club to see if we can combine the routes by moving the VAST trail farther away from the flood plain. Lenore will set up a meeting with Erik Engstrom of the club and let us know so a sub-committee can attend as well. Once the full TC approves the plan it can be presented to the owners of Lot 31.
7. **Draft Update of LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest Management Plan** – Due to time constraints this topic was tabled until the July meeting.
8. **July 4th Parade** – The TC will not participate this year because many of us will not be in town or have other commitments.
9. **Record Articles** – Jane submitted the article for the June issue, George is writing the one for the August issue and Bret volunteered for the September issue.
10. **Overlook Sign** – Lenore has purchased a pole to replace the twisted one for the Overlook Trail sign and Chic will install it.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Sheldon, Secretary