



Trails Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
802.482.2281 | hinesburg.org

Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2018

- Draft -

Present: Jane Sheldon, Sue Rusten, Chic McArthur, Lenore Budd, Oren Guttman, Peter Modley, Stewart Pierson, George Dameron, Ray Mainer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Minutes** – Peter pointed out a typo from last month's minutes. Sue made a motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting as amended, Ray seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.
2. **Budget** – There have been no expenses since the last meeting so our available funds remain at \$750.
3. **Field and Brush Mower Offer** – Doug Olufsen has offered to sell us his mower. Ray said that he thought that his mower, which is stored at Geprags, is sufficient for our purposes. We decided to decline Doug's offer.
4. **Russell Trail Projects**
 - a. Oren has been in touch with Josh Ryan to have him come and view the portion on the SE section of the Perimeter Trail to see if there is some way to improve this persistently wet area. Josh has agreed to do that as soon as he has time. Brooke Scatchard was also contacted for his help but Oren has not heard from him yet. Lenore offered to scout out a possible reroute.
 - b. George has spoken to Howdy Russell about mowing some areas where the grass has grown up. Howdy still wants to maintain that area himself and will get to it as soon as he can.
 - c. Lenore asked if the reroute of the Overlook Trail has been used and that the blocked old route has not. George said he thought hikers were no longer using the old route but would check.
 - d. There is a tree down over the Perimeter Trail north of the Overlook. Oren offered to bring his chainsaw in and clear it.

- e. Oren also mentioned that his dog had been shocked when crossing a culvert near the electric fence. He contacted Howdy who turned it off. Oren will follow up to see how it was caused and make sure the issue is fixed.
 - f. Lenore and Stewart will find a time to meet to check on the Buck Hill parking lot to see what improvements can be made and to install signage.
- 5. Geprags Trail Scouting and Maintenance** – Lenore and Chic scouted out two new routes. The first is the reroute of the NW Hill Spur trail, which has been flagged. The second is a possible connection from the perimeter loop to Shelburne Falls Road. The latter will be challenging because the needed sidewalk extension along Shelburne Falls Road would be difficult and expensive. We are still hoping to connect to Shelburne Falls Road via Ballards Road sometime in the future. Jane will research replacing the map holder at the kiosk.
- 6. Geprags Maintenance** – Lenore, Chic and John Veilleux will be working this Friday to clear the blowdown east of the barn.
- 7. Budget Request for 2018/19 Fiscal Year** – We are hoping to have cost estimates in for the Russell Trail SE corner improvement before the deadline for submitting the Trails Committee's budget request. Otherwise we will ask for the annual \$750 amount.
- 8. VOREC Grant** – After reviewing the criteria the TC does not feel that Hinesburg would be competitive for this grant. Lenore had forwarded the application to the Economic Development Committee and the Village Steering Committee, but heard nothing back from them.
- 9. LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest** – Sue mentioned that there was some blowdown here but nothing so big that hikers couldn't get around or over the debris. She mentioned that Peter VanVranken has offered to clear what is there.
- 10. Committee Membership** – Sue has decided to give up her seat on the committee as of the end of the year. Thank you Sue for your years of valuable work! Terms for Jane, Ray, Chic and Oren are also ending this year, but all have offered to remain. We discussed some people who have shown interest in the past of joining the TC. Lenore will contact them to determine if they are still interested to fill Sue's position.
- 11. Record Articles** – Chic has sent in his article for this month, Sue is writing the one for November and Lenore offered to take January's.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for November 21st.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Sheldon, Secretary