



Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg
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Hinesburg Conservation Commission Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 - 7:00 PM

MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY

Due to closure of Hinesburg Town Hall

Zoom Meeting Log-in Information:

Meeting ID: 890 5227 2185 **Password:** 193720

Computer Log-in:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89052272185?pwd=c3NQVXZ2MXZvWEpqa1N0SFJRMXhpUT09>

Dial in by Phone: (929) 205-6099

Present: Mike Bissonette, Meg Handler, Bob Hyams, Kate Kelly, Darcie Mumley. Marie Ayer joined the meeting a few minutes late.

1. Call to order

7:00 PM

2. Additions/Deletions to agenda

7:00 PM

No additions or deletions

3. Public Comment for non-agenda items

7:05 PM

No public comment

4. Potential updates to CC by-laws

7:10 PM

Existing (original?) bylaws are old, non-digital. Kate has proposed new bylaws, that updates logistics (meeting times/days, term limits, reappointment dates). They make a major change as well - commission size reduced from 9 to 7. There was discussion and clarification regarding quorum which will be 4, and votes will be determinant only if 4 or more members vote in concert.

There is some question about language that describes the Secretary's role and responsibilities. It was agreed that the language as presented will permit necessary operations.

Motion: (Meg/Marie) Motion to accept changes to bylaws as presented and amended during discussion.

Motion passes 6-0 vote.

Next step: Get signatures from at least 5 members and forward signatures to Select Board.

5. Natural Resources Inventory update

7:30 PM

Meg and Kate edited the outreach letter. Meg will circulate to CC. We plan to follow up the letter with a phone call. Kate is targeting 5/18 for letters to be mailed. Kate will assign landowners for CC and 'friends' to call.

Questions for Jesse: can landowners accompany? What is current calendar for getting site visit completed?

6. Haystack Crossing discussion

7:45 PM

No items covered that directly pertain to CC agenda at last DRB hearing. Kate raised the idea of assigning individual members to cover specific applications on behalf of CC, to overcome the challenge of responding to hearings in a timely manner. Marie was open to the idea, provided that the entire CC gives the application an initial review. Mike would like to come up with a program that would encourage CC input before an official application is submitted to the DRB.

Bob and Kate will continue to represent the CC for the Haystack Crossing application. Mike will attend Russell site visit on behalf of CC

Motion (Meg/Marie) to assign Bob and Kate to represent the CC for Haystack Crossing application. Motion passes 6-0

7. Milfoil treatment/Lake Iroquois discussion

8:00 PM

The Lake Iroquois Association has submitted an application to DEC to apply a/an herbicide, ProcellaCOR, for control of non-native invasive eurasian milfoil. Meg voiced many, many, many concerns pertaining to lake ecology. Bob expressed concerns about committing to a/an herbicide regimen that will require ongoing disbursements by the town (no \$ request has been made of the town yet.)

The CC agreed not to take a position before the June 1 comment deadline. We did agree to post to FpF to alert the town to the issue. We will have another opportunity to comment if the permit is granted and the SB is considering funding.

8. Geprags Park maintenance: confirm Wahl's mowing schedule, review signs task, parking lot maintenance, June 6 Trails Day 8:30 PM

Darcie will look into getting signs made before end of fiscal year. Concerns about pot holes in access road and parking lot, and wet areas along main N-S trail.

9. Other Business & Correspondence: Green Up Day (Sat. May 30) 8:45 PM

Manning the town garage has fallen on the CC for each of the past Green Up Days. Kate will circulate a schedule, we will see if we can fill it in.

10. Review minutes of April 14, 2020 meeting and prior meetings 7:05 PM
Motion (Mike/Meg) to approve April minutes as amended.

Motion approved - 6/0

11. Nature Notes 8:55 PM

Beavers in the park, multiple red fox sightings, birds are back in droves, explored a unique pitch pine bog in Missisquoi

12. Adjourn 9:00 PM

Bob will be taking next meeting off as minute taker