



## Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg

10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461

802.482.2281 | hinesburg.org

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### Hinesburg Conservation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 - 7:00 PM

MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY

Due to closure of Hinesburg Town Hall

In attendance: Bob Hyams, Darcie Mumley, Liz Doran, Kate Kelly, Mike Bissonette

Public: Paul Wiecorak and Andrea Morgante (HLT), Nina Friscia, Steve Gladstone, Patty C (?), Drew Lepple

1. Called to order at 7:03 PM.
2. Additions/Deletions to agenda – None
3. Public Comment for non-agenda items – None
4. Discussion about Patrick Brook corridor with Hinesburg Land Trust

Paul W and Andrea representing Hinesburg Land Trust. The Land Conservation Fund was created in 1990s, approx 16K currently available in the fund. Typically, it was funded through a warned item at town meeting, recent years the allocation was reduced to 1.5K and included in general budget line item, not voted on individually. Historically used to leverage other funding sources for land conservation. Most funds released based on recommendation from CC and approval by SB.

Andrea pointed out that the large development projects currently considered in the village growth centers have significant lands that extend beyond the growth center - lands with significant ecosystem values. CC members concurred, and recent analysis of Patrick Brook by Mike Kline, consultant with Fluvial Matters LLC, further supports this proposition.

Next Steps: CC and HLT to meet to discuss vision for lands in question within the Patrick Brook/LaPlatte River corridor

5. Parkinson application

Four-house subdivision off of Pond Road - natural resources at potentially at risk, based on map level analysis; core habitat, forest block, deer wintering area, steep slopes, all identified on the NRI, stormwater runoff concerns.

Drew Lepple, as an adjoining land owner, shared his perspective and concerns

Motion (Bob) - Michael to represent the CC in review of this application

Second (Meg) - motion carries unanimously

6. NRI map update

Ready for release, Bob will write a front porch forum introduction, Kate will ensure convenient link is inserted in town website.

7. Raise the Blade

Kate reviewed the program, and that she was approached to see if the Town of Hinesburg would like to join the program. The CC could support the program, and suggest the coordinator approach the Select Board and Joy about it, after discussion with Bob Wahl.

Motion (Meg) support the Raise the Blade Initiative

Second (Darcie) - motion carries unanimously

8. Review minutes of November 11, November 16, December 9, and December 15, 2020 Meetings

Motion (Michael): approve the November 11, November 16, December 9, and December 15, 2020 meetings

Second (Bob): motion carries with one abstention (Liz)

9. Nature Notes

10. Reminders & Adjourn

Minutes submitted by Robert Hyams