



Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg

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Hinesburg Conservation Commission Special Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 21, 2021 - 7:00 PM

CC Members Present: Robert Hyams, Darcie Mumley, Kate Kelly, Liz Doran

HLT Members Present: Andrea Morgante, Paul Wieczoreck

Public Present: Nina Friscia, Barbara

1. Kate called the meeting to order at 7:05 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: plan for future discussion with landowners/developers

Importance of land west of Bissonette Fields: recreational opportunities (near Geprags), Connectivity for other species. Floodplain forest, likely wetland (unique plants - swamp white oak), old oxbow. Seed reservoir/gene reserve for recolonization for what was the native forest type. Restoration potential to improve water quality, and protect infrastructure (ballfields & lagoon). Unusual plant/animal nearby.

Andrea reviewed HLT process: engage with landowners, then appraisal of fair market value, support from VHCB, other funding (grants, town, private).

Paul & someone from CC to approach landowners (not necessary to include town staff): what's their intent and what ours is/why we see the value of this land from a regional and statewide perspective. Alex/Mitch could make an introduction – not part of regulatory process. Exclude Patrick Brook corridor area.

Liz B. made a motion to appoint Bob H. to coordinate with HLT (Paul W.) to discuss conservation of the area west of Bissonette Fields with landowners/developers. Darcie M. seconded the motion. Motion carried with all voting in favor, 4-0.

5. Adjourn 8:27 PM

Minutes submitted by Kate Kelly