



Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg
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Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Hinesburg Town Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room – 7:00 PM

Present: George LeClair, Bob Hyams, Michael Bissonette, Marie Ayer, Kate Kelly

Guest: Alicia Daniel

1. Call to Order - 7:00 pm

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda - 7:05 pm

Adding Alicia Daniel from UVM Field Naturalist program to talk about Hinesburg based initiative. She explained the Vermont Master Naturalist: Hinesburg Program to seek interest of CC and Trails Committee to help fund it. Marie will forward the program information to CVU to see about juniors at CVU participating as part of their project graduation challenge. They need about 15 people to start this up in Hinesburg and some group leaders. Vermont Master Naturalist program needs about \$1,750 to finish up and run the program. Program needs money and may need some space.

Do we want to fund this but stipulate that a few slots are saved for Hinesburg teachers and for some CVU students? Should we scholarship some students? Mike is going to get a sense of our funds. Marie will reach out to both schools in town and forward the information. The CC will formulate a response to Alicia.

3. Natural Resources Inventory Mapping Next Steps - 7:10 pm

We need to put together a steering committee to create a RFP. This should be made of the various interested parties. This would take four meetings as they hire a contractor for the natural resource inventory mapping. Bob sent out an email to get interested parties. There are enough interested citizens to call a meeting and we still need to invite Select Board and Lake Iroquois Association. Goal would be to have the contractor hired and ready to start July 1, 2019.

4. Calendar Update - 7:45 pm

Kate says the Google calendar exists but isn't quite linked out to the public and various groups are starting to use it.

5. Geprag's Park Habitat Work - 7:55 pm

Just some minor work was completed and Bob will check back in on the progress.

6. Discussion: Goals For This Year - 8:05 pm

Mike's goal is to get a good financial report. Kate mentioned that CVU is working on Warbler habitat and tracking birds. Might be nice to have a combined educational outreach event. Signs out for Geprag's Park should be created. Mike will check in with Renee about when CC could present the Geprag's Park Plan. Could the CC sponsor a community event--Put it on the April agenda to start the process for selecting a date and creating a list of resources. Tiny Grant due date is April 12 and the values are \$250 to \$600.

7. Approval of Minutes: January 8, 2019 - 8:20 pm

We will approve this next meeting.

8. Nature Notes - 8:25 pm

Mike is excited for sugaring season and has spotted bobcats. Marie saw Howler Monkeys in Costa Rica. Bob went to a tracking training in Montpelier. Kate has seen some Barred Owls. George has Ermine Weasel living in his shop.

9. Adjourn - 8:40 pm