



Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg

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Hinesburg Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Hybrid – 3rd floor Town Hall or via Zoom:

1. Call to order: Kate Kelly, Meg Handler, Bob Hyams, Darcie Mumley, Liz Doran present 7:15 PM
2. Additions/Deletions to agenda -- none
3. Public Comment for non-agenda items -- none
4. Elections – Bob nominated Kate to continue as President, Meg offered to continue as Secretary, Bob offered to continue as Treasurer. Unanimous vote in favor.
5. Wakeboats – update on progress – Meg reported that the petition is going to be submitted soon, hopefully by the end of January. The group agreed to submit a letter of support and include it with the petition. Meg made a motion to delegate Kate to finalize the letter once she has seen a final version of the Petition, if the Executive Summary is not substantially different from the one previously shown to the Conservation Commission. Bob seconded the motion. Discussion. Unanimous agreement with Meg abstaining.
6. Geprags Park – three topics: 1. VGS request: Conservation Commission has not seen the actual letter from Mark LaBarr to VGS, related to the warbler restoration plan. (Since VGS drilled underground, they ended up not doing restoration work because the habitat wasn't disturbed as originally planned.) Bill Marks weighed in on this issue, but the Conservation Commission should read through the obligations before agreeing to change them. Bob will read it and report back. 2. VELCO will be replacing one of the posts and has put down mats as part of the work. VELCO will be doing restoration work when the mats are removed. Perhaps they could use a wetland mix or pollinator mix when doing the restoration work. Kate will ask when responding to the VELCO representative. 3. Beavers! Bob reported on beaver activity moving through the park. Bob thinks we should be proactive to protect the underpass that goes under Shelburne Falls Road. If the beavers impact the road, we will lose control of the process, and the Town maintenance department might not be as interested as we are in working with the beavers. Discussion of the issues. First step: a field trip to the park to look at the beaver activity. Friday, Jan. 21st at 9am.

7. Development Review – Bob reported on Donovan’s sketch plan (across from CVU) which was approved by the DRB. It was subsequently reviewed by the State Wetland Division which reduced it down to only two houses. Kate is still following the request on Texas Hill Road (Farrell) and they are moving the house closer to the road and going back to the DRB with a new request.
8. Review minutes of November 9th and December 14th 2021. Kate made motion to approve both minutes. Unanimous approval.
9. Nature Notes
10. Adjourn
8:40 PM