



Conservation Commission

Town of Hinesburg

10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461

802.482.2281 | hinesburg.org

Hinesburg Conservation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 – 7:00 PM

Via Zoom:

1. Call to order – Meg, Kate, Bill, Liz, Summer and Tobi present. 7:00 PM
2. Additions/Deletions to agenda -- none
3. Public Comment for non-agenda items -- none
1. Updates on Land Preservation fund. Kate spoke with Laura Farrel of Monkton. Monkton's tax rate for land conservation used to be 2 cents, but now is based on an annual request for projected need. Usually, Monkton spends it all. Bill reported that he attended the State of Vermont Environmental Leadership training program and has access now to the criteria being used to plan town-by-town conservation. Bill also attended the Chittenden County 30 by 30 presentation – A property must fit one of these categories to be considered conserved land: Ecological Reserve Area, Biodiversity Resource area, or Natural Resource Management Area. The CC discussed both the 30 By 30 initiative and also the Land Preservation Fund. We need to look at conservation plans from other towns.
4. Town Plan update – We should study the plan and then review how Town Plan aspirational ideas translate into concrete regulations and then into DRB application. This would show us where changes need to happen. Discussion of Town Plan survey done by the Planning Commission. This might be something that we should do as a working group, in person. Since the survey has come back indicating positive support for 30 By 30, maybe we should start with this as a foundation for our review. Decision reached to prioritize our review and CC suggestions regarding the Town Plan. Meeting as a working group on April 3rd at 5:30pm.
5. Further Updates --
 - a. NRI – Bob and Kate met with Jesse Mohr. Documents will be able to be downloaded but without specifics that might concern landowners. He is looking into a password-protected map that could be accessed by the Town but not by the public.
 - b. Geprags management – Bird management completed with no problems. (A few weeks ago.) We used \$1,000 from VT Gas and a match from the Partners Program. Marc plans to do an birding outreach program June 1st.

- c. Education subcommittee – Beaverland discussion on April 10th with Author talk on April 18th.

6. Nature Notes

7. Adjourn

9:10 PM