



Town Forest Committee

Town of Hinesburg

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Draft

Meeting Minutes January 12, 2023

Present: Pat Mainer (Chair), Chris Haviland, Brent Francis (via Zoom), Kelsey Barklund, Jon Trefry, Thomas Marrinson, Aaron Miller (via zoom), Tom Broido, Stevie Spencer

Absent:

Visitors: Mark Rosolen

Call to order: Pat Mainer called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:03 pm on January 12, 2023

Public Comment: none

Discussion/Approval of December 8, 2022 minutes: Jon moved to approve the minutes. Tom Marrinson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: no change from last month

ADDITIONS:

Note of Appreciation: Pat thanked Chris Hill, Mark McGinley and Chris Haviland for many hours of work to clear the HTF trails of trees and storm damage after the pre-Christmas wind storm.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Conservation Easement violation at LHFT:** Pat reports that an individual brought heavy equipment onto town land to destroy 3 beaver dams. Pat contacted the VT Land Trust.
- **Projects/work plan for 2023:** Pat reviewed 2023 projects that were discussed last month to ask for commitments from committee members to participate.

UPDATES:

- **HTF 2022 Management Plan:** Approved by the select board
- **Investing Committee Funds:** No update

- **Habitat Stamp brontosaurus work for the golden winged-warbler:** Should have been completed at this point
- **Stand 14 Timber Harvest:** Delayed during the warm period. Looks like the Brown's are back at it.
- **HTFC website:** Kelsey looked at the website and made some recommendations. Other members promised to look at it so we can make suggestions.
- **HTF Signage:** Kelsey got some suggestions for sign material and construction. She also spoke with Adam from FOTW so that signage can conform to others in the Chittenden County networks.
- **RTP Grant:** Jon discussed thoughts on using this type of grant to not just make trails adaptive bike compatible but also for individuals with disabilities who would want to use the trails for wheel chairs or other accommodations. Kelsey had some info on the Raven's Ridge Trails regarding contact info for someone who might be able to give us feedback from users of the access there which is designed for mobility challenged users. RTP Grants are more likely to be accepted if they serve a broader group of users, not just adaptive mtn bikers. Some suggested that the terrain at LHTF might be better suited to an application for this type of grant and might also help to alleviate some other issues with trails there regarding wet spots and trail widening by users.
- **Invasives at LHTF (TNC & US/VT F & W,) HTF Boundary painting, HTF Inventory & Assessment, LHTF Bat houses, (install two new, caulk and paint three old,) HTF Deer exclosures:** No updates

Next Meeting: February 9, 2023, 7:00 pm, at Hinesburg Town Hall and or Zoom.

Adjournment: Tom M. made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kelsey. Motion was approved unanimously at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Haviland