

RECEIVED

DATE May 5, 2008

January 2008 meeting for the Conservation Commission of Huntington, Vt
(Jan 10, 2008)

*note- minutes by Dhyan Nirmegh, re-typed by AWorthley from handwritten version.
Present-Dhyan Nirmegh, Aaron Worthley, Robin Worn, Wally Jenkins, Amy Dohner, Tim
Taft*

Approved with amendments 2/14/08

Aaron opened the meeting and gave the floor to Nirmegh who announced he was stepping down from the board to devote more time to his opposition of the Foundation for Sustainable Futures wind tower placement.

Aaron and the board thanked him for his service.

The name Tyler Miller came up (as a replacement member). He works for the Vt Land Trust and lives in town. Maybe a good replacement.

Robin then informed she was leaving in March (at the end of her term).

More discussion on new candidates.

Amy Dohner told of speaking with Hinesburg residents to see what they were doing with transportation issues. Melinda Moulton was supposed to join the meeting to discuss a joint HCC/Energy Committee carpooling initiative, but did not arrive.

Park and Ride-

P&R sign is up opposite the library pointing to P&R lot behind. Wally says only one side showing, need 2 sides to show.

Final work to be done. Electricians to be here in a couple days to work with lights.

Landscape contractor to finish in spring.

Tim Taft joined meeting at 7:35

Wally went on...Jeff Palin hasn't submitted everything he's done, won't do that until finished. If everything is on budget, there may be some leftover money. What to do with it? Fund for maintenance?

Half of the \$45000 has been received. Other half at tend of job. Town gets to keep any extra money, discussion around using extra for PR program maybe?

December HCC meeting minutes approved.

Mail passed around table.

Sugarmakers Openhouse

Date set for March 29th. Aaron will put brochure together. Signs to go out early. Board decided not to advertise activities of other people in town on that day- need to stay focused.

Board suggested people be encouraged to use Front Porch Forum email list.

Hanson Project

HHCT still working with Kier's on purchase of land. Application not up for active consideration right now.

Zoning Checklist

Board hasn't seen Seth (Zoning Administrator) about checklist yet.

Discussion turned to snowmobile access that is going to terminate on the Mitchell property development. Tim stated it was a huge connection to the trails up around the Camels Hump/Waterbury area. Some discussion about snowmobiles on the wetlands in winter.

Ancient Roads- no new info.

Annual Report- Steve will put together report using minutes. Park and Ride= highlight of year, Sugarmakers Openhouse a great success, river monitoring was expanded.

Scenic Methodology-

Aaron made some maps with marked sites that were randomly chosen by computer and a map with sites marked every half mile along Main Road. Quite some discussion about how to pick sites to be analyzed for use in a background scoring guide.

Take some points on back roads, and some on main roads.

Tim suggested a 50/50 split, use teams of 2 was suggested- although it may be the case to individually do it. Helps understand methodology better to have a number of people doing all 20 sites.

2008 retreat- At Wally's last year, Aaron will host this year. Brainstorm priorities. Also important to discuss what has started and how to keep on track. Team building, date to be later confirmed.

101 series- Energy 101- Amy- event that we have been discussing to overlap with the energy committee. 9 people on new energy committee, and it presents an opportunity to team up.

Tree survey- Aaron and Wally did a tree survey in 2006. Trees have been said to have a calming effect regarding traffic- trees lining roads, of course power lines and trees don't

mix. Wally considering applying for some planting grants, for spring planting. Wally will explore.

Tim shared info about corn production, escalating production of ethanol influencing farm feed costs. Hidden costs of our energy consumption.

Tim announced he was resigning from the commission. He suggested maintaining an agricultural perspective on the board and recommended Alan Brace as a good replacement.