

Town of Huntington — Huntington Conservation Commission (HCC) Meeting



Thursday, 10 September 2015—7:00 pm

Town Office - downstairs
**** APPROVED ** MINUTES**

RECEIVED *[Signature]*
 DATE *October 13, 2015*

<p>Agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approve the August minutes, review mail • Public Comment • Town Forest Proposal to purchase town Forest - Remo P. Discuss proposal and the access recommendation in Town Forest Report • Camel's Hump Nordic Ski Association trail/access – Decision • Catamount Trail Easement in Town Forest -- Follow up with select board • Budget Discussion budget needed by October 1 • HCC Work Plan and Priorities • Special places tour confirm date and promotional activities - Burnt Rock from Trapp Road (Joe Perella): Update from JB and Camel's Hump State Forest or Beane Trail to Long Trail (Wally Jenkins: Update from Sheri • Stormwater - Review and Recommendations for Request for Engineering to the Lake Champlain Basin Pollution Prevention and Habitat Conservation Grant Program • other outstanding agenda items, business or updates • Adjourn • Outstanding agenda items • ECOS Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife corridor map status – Roman - Possible contract to do some field verification? • Next Meeting : Thursday, October 8
<p>Members present:</p>	<p>Sheri Lynn (Co-Chair), Rebecca Ryan (Co-Chair), JB Bryan, Darlene Palola, Jenna Whitson, Roman Livak</p>
<p>Staff/Officials present</p>	<p>Terry Ryan, HCC Clerk</p>
<p>Others present</p>	<p>Remo Pizzagalli</p>
<p>Call to order</p>	<p>Rebecca Ryan called the meeting to order at 19:03</p>
<p>Approval of Minutes (13 August 2015) - MOTION</p>	<p>MOTION: Lynn moved and Bryan seconded to approve the draft minutes of 13 August June 2015, with the date corrected to August versus July, and Rebecca Ryan deleted as attendee (she was absent). Passed unanimously.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>None</p>

Agenda	Discussion
<p>Topic: Proposal to purchase town Forest - Remo Pizzagalli</p> <p>MOTION</p>	<p>Lynn introduced Mr. Pizzagalli to the Commission members. He showed them a map of his current property adjacent to the Town Forest (TF) and asked if the Town might be interested in selling the TF. He wants to consolidate adjacent property and have large forested area for his legacy to his descendants. Interested in logging, but also in conservations, and not in development. Lynn briefly outlined the idea of the Town purchasing land on Mayo Road for Town use; this concept fell through. Palola asked if Pizzagalli would entertain conservation and trail use easements; he would. He noted that his current land is not posted and that the Catamount and CHNSA ski trail pass through it. Livak and Bryan both noted that the TF at present is somewhat of an unusable burden and that selling would put the land onto the tax rolls. Livak noted that the current Listers valuation of the TF is \$64, 900. Lynn thanked Pizzagalli for his interest, and he departed.</p> <p>Ryan noted that Bob Houser of the Vermont Land Trust might be a knowledgeable resource about how such a sale, with conservation easements, might be pursued. Whitson noted the same for Roger Cressman of the Trust for Public Land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOTION: Lynn moved and Bryan seconded a Motion that the HCC recommend to the Selectboard selling the current Town Forest, contingent upon a conservation easement being in place. After some discussion recapitulating the previous (see above), Motion passed unanimously.
<p>Topic: Camel's Hump Nordic Ski Association trail/access</p> <p>MOTION</p>	<p>Lynn read an email from David Brautigam (CHNSA President), which described the plan for a groomable Nordic ski trail through the TF and the use of excavating equipment to build it, but that CHNSA lacks funds to fully execute this plan this year, but would begin cutting the line of the trail. Bryan reiterated his opinion that the trail should utilize the log road already present, which CHNSA considers to be too steep and eroded of a line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOTION: Ryan moved and Lynn seconded a Motion to tell CHNSA to go ahead and cut the line of the trail, but without use of heavy equipment for now. Motion passed unanimously. • Actions: Lynn to notify David Brautigam. Livak to ask Vermont League of Cities and Towns for legal advice regarding easement.
<p>Topic: Catamount Trail Easement in Town Forest</p> <p>MOTION</p> <p>MOTION</p>	<p>Lynn led a discussion elaborating on the Catamount Trail Association's (CTA) proposed easement for a backcountry ski trail through the Town Forest and the wording suggested by Town lawyer Carrol. Concern was raised by several Commission members that the easement would be overtaken by events if the TF is sold, and that spending more money on the legal drawing up of the easement would be wasteful Lynn noted that the process is well along and the HCC owes the CTA and answer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOTION: Livak moved and Bryan seconded a Motion to cease any further discussion of the CTA easement until the possibility of selling the TF is decided by the Selectboard. Motion vote was Livak and Bryan pro; Lynn, Ryan, Whitson, Palola con. Motion failed. • MOTION: Ryan moved and Whitson seconded a Motion that the HCC continue pursuing the easement, provided that CTA pays further legal fees required to finalize. Motion passed unanimously. • Action: Lynn to contact CTA regarding them covering further legal costs.

Topic: Budget	<p>Lynn led a budget discussion. Consensus was to submit the below. There was discussion regarding inconsistencies among the various Town Board and Commissions regarding Clerk compensation.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Budget Account</th> <th>Budget Actual FY - 2015</th> <th>Budget Actual FY-2015 Pd:12</th> <th>Budget Actual FY - 2016</th> <th>Budget Actual FY-2016 Pd: 2</th> <th>Budget Actual FY - 2017</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="6">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1100--66--2244</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6">CONSERVATION COMMISSION</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-6-24-100.00</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salaries - CC Clerk</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>480.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>_____ \$550. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-6-24-100.01</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FICA/MEDI - CC</td> <td>38.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>37.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>_____ (as determined) _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-6-24-140.00</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dues/Training - CC</td> <td>120.00</td> <td>50.00</td> <td>120.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>_____ \$120. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-6-24-140.02</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Workshops/Programs - CC</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>80.00</td> <td>240.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>_____ \$240. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-6-24-145.00</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Supplies - CC</td> <td>140.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>140.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>_____ \$140. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-6-24-155.00</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Purchased Services - CC</td> <td>490.00</td> <td>122.64</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>_____ \$500. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-6-24-215.00</td> <td colspan="5"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Funding - CC</td> <td>16,000.00</td> <td>16,000.00</td> <td>16,000.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>_____ \$16,000. _____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Budget Account	Budget Actual FY - 2015	Budget Actual FY-2015 Pd:12	Budget Actual FY - 2016	Budget Actual FY-2016 Pd: 2	Budget Actual FY - 2017	-----						1100--66--2244						CONSERVATION COMMISSION						10-6-24-100.00						Salaries - CC Clerk	500.00	0.00	480.00	0.00	_____ \$550. _____	10-6-24-100.01						FICA/MEDI - CC	38.00	0.00	37.00	0.00	_____ (as determined) _____	10-6-24-140.00						Dues/Training - CC	120.00	50.00	120.00	0.00	_____ \$120. _____	10-6-24-140.02						Workshops/Programs - CC	500.00	80.00	240.00	0.00	_____ \$240. _____	10-6-24-145.00						Operating Supplies - CC	140.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	_____ \$140. _____	10-6-24-155.00						Purchased Services - CC	490.00	122.64	500.00	0.00	_____ \$500. _____	10-6-24-215.00						Reserve Funding - CC	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	0.00	_____ \$16,000. _____
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Topic: Special places tour	Bryan noted that Joe Perella is looking into cutting a trail (with State permission) to Burnt Rock from the Huntington side. The Special Places tour of this was postponed. Bryan volunteered to lead a "Mushroom Tour" on the Forest City/Burroughs Connector trail on October 24 th at 10, as a Special Places tour.																																																																																																												
Topic: Stormwater grant MOTION	<p>Palola discussed Town Garage runoff problem and the grant available from the Friends of the Winooski. Lynn asked if the grant would allow the engineering assessment work to be completed by November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOTION: Livak moved and Lynn seconded a Motion to pursue the Grant. Passed unanimously. • Actions: Palola to present draft Grant application to the Selectboard on the 14th. All members to seek other funding sources to actually execute the work once the assessment is complete. 																																																																																																												
Topic: Misc.	<p>Ryan reported that the Friend of Gillette Pond would be kayaking the pond on the 27th and asks the HCC to help in promoting the event. Agreed.</p> <p>Livak reported the Chittenden Solid Waste District has \$2400 for Huntington for waste, composting and cleanup special projects.</p>																																																																																																												
Adjourn MOTION	MOTION: Bryan moved and Palola seconded to adjourn the meeting at 21:05. Passed unanimously.																																																																																																												
	<p>8 October 2015 – Next Meeting date 13 Sep 2015 – Draft/unapproved minutes sent to Town Clerk for website posting 8 Oct 2015 – Final/approved minutes approved 10 Oct 2015 – Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk for recording & website posting</p>																																																																																																												