

The Delaney Planning Committee
Unofficial Minutes
March 9, 2020

Members in attendance:

Tim Makepeace, Felix Reed, Tracee Rupe, Fran Gilman, Grace Larson

Also: Kevin Moffit, Pam Burlingame

Meeting Called to order at 7:01PM.

The February minutes were reviewed. Fran made a motion to accept them, Tim seconded it and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Tracee reports that the budget is \$46,133.96 (including grant money), as well as the \$8,000 operating budget voted on. The committee will get the operating budget in July. It will be used at the committee's discretion, probably for road maintenance and new/updated signage.

Delaney Wood Business: Bill will put up a sign at the road frontage. Pam Burlingame, Regional Manager of the Vermont Land Trust was here, and we discussed the following.

- Slate Valley Trails is planning to continue to build trails
- What is the management plan in the easement, and who is going to be in charge of maintenance?
- It is in the town's best interest to have an agreement with Slate Valley Trails to establish trail maintenance plans.
- Since there's no hard agreement in place, Slate Valley Trails need to ask permission for new trail construction.
- The connecting trail from the O'Brien property doesn't have a legal easement, so we need to consider what uses are allowed. Should there be seasonal closures/stoppages on trail building? Tim pointed out that there is not an agreement in place regarding trail maintenance, or seasonal closures for hunting access. Perhaps we should meet with a Slate Valley Trails representative to figure this out? As always, any budget items need to go through the Select Board.
- Pam pointed out that VLT is concerned with best practices being carried out, so VLT may need to approve trails on a case by case basis.
- Pam asks about documentation regarding trail groups and management – currently it appears that there isn't any.
- Fran asks if there is any documentation regarding VAST trails.
- There was a discussion of forest management practices – a few years ago Chris Stone did a walk through and reported no cutting was needed, also walked with Slate Valley Trails representative to establish best ways to map/build trails.
- We should keep in mind priorities regarding walking/biking trails.
- Pam asked if there has been discussion of invasive species assessment and management. **There may be resources available through Castleton University**

and/or Americore – we should be in touch about this. There would be no financial commitment for the town.

- VLT did a Vernal Pool hike in the woods 2 years ago, and while the school may not be involved this year, they would like to do so again. There was general agreement that this would be a great opportunity for community members to enjoy and learn from the property. **Pam will plan on setting this un in the end of April, open to all.**
- We discussed the option of putting the VLT map up on the Wells town website.

Lakeside Park Business: Nothing to report.

Lakeside Pavilion Business:

Tracee talked to the architect, and will set up a meeting with Fran and Tim to finalize the plans. Fran reports that the Select Board agrees with the changes discussed last month.

Felix asks if we should be considering handicap access to the pavilion. Everyone agrees that this is a good point, and we should discuss it when plans are closer to finalized.

Once plans are finalized with the architect, they will hopefully be approved by the Select Board, then Cathy will do the bidding posting.

Fran makes a motion to adjourn at 7:48, Felix 2nds, passes unanimously, meeting is adjourned.

Submitted this day, March 18, 2020 by Grace Larson, Secretary