

**Special Meeting of the Hogback Preservation Commission  
With the Hogback Mountain Conservation Association  
5 p.m. Friday, February 19, 2016  
Marlboro, Vermont Town Office  
Minutes**

**Call to Order** – 5:05pm

**Attendees:** Mike Purcell, Lauren MacArthur, David Elliott, Bob Anderson, Nancy Anderson, Diana Todd, Amanda Whiting, Patti Smith, Staley McDermet, Mike Clough

This meeting was called to discuss our goals for a biodiversity and/or habitat study/inventory of the conservation area.

Minutes from Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> special meeting need to be approved at next HPC meeting.

**GOALS**

Each person shared their number one goal for completing a biodiversity/habitat study. After goals were stated, each person present placed stickers on goals that aligned with their second and third choices. Blue stickers = #1 choices, red stickers = #2 choices, yellow stickers = #3 choices.

Goals highlighted in the list below were the ones with the most stickers.

1. Consultant who will make recommendations (1 yellow)
2. Result in zones of sensitive areas & other (1 blue, 1 red)
3. Thorough walk-through with GPS record of sensitive areas plus why area is sensitive. (4 blue dots, 1 red)
4. Find Invasives (1 red)
5. Conservation of wildlife habitat (2 blue, 4 red)
6. Serve educational goals as well as scientific goals; provide material to use with schools & general public. (2 blue, 2 red, 1 yellow)
7. Find things that are unique to Hogback that aren't offered elsewhere nearby (1 red, 2 yellow)
8. Clear and accessible documentation. Usable things that could support signs or posters (1 blue, 1 red, 4 yellow)

9. Establish baseline of Natural Communities (1 blue)
10. Community Involvement (1 yellow)
11. Where important communities link across borders (1 red)
12. Identify flora & fauna communities (2 blue, 1 yellow)

### Desired RESULTS/APPLICATIONS

Where should trails be?

Not be?

Current & future.

Where might logging occur? Not occur?

Types of zones. Where to draw the lines?

How to manage invasives.

#### **Other Ideas Discussed:**

-Bioblitz (might be a good way to get community involvement, but would the data be useful?)

-Having a consultant give us ideas about projects that we could tackle (using community support)

-We want to be on the lookout for educational opportunities along the way!

-If we hire someone, we really want a “GPS track” of where they go so we know what’s really been covered

-There are different ways to “cruise” a piece of land: meandering and regimented – which do we want?

#### **Outcome and Next Steps**

After the discussions in this meeting, these are things we all seem interested in moving forward with:

-Hiring an expert

-Writing proposals for grant \$

-Getting community support/involvement

Patti will call Tii McClean to talk about her work with W. Windsor and get some ideas of cost, time needed to do a project like this, whether or not it would make sense to

incorporate volunteer help/labor, and what a professional might need from us in terms of information and goals.

Lauren will do the same with Arrowood Environmental

Staley will circulate the list of goals amongst the HMCA to flesh out ideas and work towards a proposal draft.

HPC will meet at their regular March meeting to discuss next steps.

**Adjournment** – 6:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lauren MacArthur  
2/24/16