Hogback Preservation Commission

Regular Meeting - Monday May 14, 2018 at 5 p.m.
Marlboro, Vermont Town Office
Minutes

Present: Mike Purcell (chair), Christine Colella, David Elliot, Ed Metcalfe, Malcolm Moore
Absent: Sarah Grant
Guest: Nancy Anderson, for HMCA

1. Call to Order 5:06pm

2. Review of Agenda

3. Rules of Procedure: Revised the rules to reference the VT Open Meeting law plus signatures, per VLCT model rules. The revised rules were re-adopted by unanimous vote, & signed by 5 members present; Sara to sign later.

4. Minutes of HPC meeting on 3/12/18 were approved with minor amendments.

5. Reports:

a. **Chair's Report**
- Skiing was nice this winter.
- Proposed bike trail from Alpenglow area to link with a proposed bike trail inside Molly Stark state park; the proposed route will be flagged for review by HPC and HMCA.
- Biodiversity study funding of $8,400. was explicitly approved by the select board.

b. HMCA Report was sent to HPC members electronically; lots of activity as usual. HMCA treasurer said 2/3 of cost of biodiversity study will be drawn from Hogback endowment fund this year; final 1/3 to be in 2019 budget. Money should be available from a maturing CD.

c. SVNHM Report:

- After conveyance of the Gift Shop, the museum will retain a 6 year lease to stay in the building. The museum board is looking at various options beyond that.

- Parking on Ed Metcalfe's land is defined by easement: 10 cars can park in the big lot on N side of Rte. 9, and 6 cars can park on S side. Ed prefers that cars not park near the Alpenglow; they block access to the business. HPC can help with signs, fences, etc. if they would be helpful.

6. **Old Business**

a. Special Use Permit: Reviewed a draft form to fill out for private use of Hogback land. Goal is for HPC to be aware of and review land use. Applicants can expect approval by HPC within a few days for straightforward uses, and careful review by select board for more complicated uses. Topics still to consider include (1) a number of people in a group that would trigger the need for a permit; (2) provide a map with the form, showing the conservation area and parking options; (3) how long will it take to get approval, (4) additional reference to alcohol; (5) an application fee, (6) town office hours. HPC is generally in favor of a Special Use Permit. The draft application form will be forwarded to HMCA and invite their input.

b. Demolition of the First Aid Building: Received report from Catamount Environmental showing asbestos in the building, and discussed options for demolition. Mike Purcell will continue investigating the next steps.

c. National Grid License Agreement expires in July 2018. A new license agreement might include higher payments and maintenance of the access road. Considering the time urgency, the HPC named a subcommittee of Mike Purcell & Malcolm Moore & Nancy Anderson to continue negotiations with Select Board and National Grid.

d. Liability: Reviewed info received from VLCT, which was requested by town treasurer Linda Peters. The concern was liability of HPC or HMCA officers for injuries to the public or volunteers working at Hogback. The town liability insurance probably covers HPC commissioners. Volunteers doing field work should sign a release form. David Elliot and Nancy Anderson will continue discussion of liability with Linda Peters.

7. **New Business**

Volunteer form: Reviewed the model form received from VLCT. The form should be modified for use at Hogback and signed by volunteers.

8. Adjourn 7:00 pm

Next meeting Monday July 9, 2018 at 5 p.m.

HPC meetings are on the second Monday of alternate months:

September 10, 2018
November 12, 2018
January 14, 2019