

**Notice of Scheduled Regular Meeting of the Hogback  
Preservation Commission  
5 p.m. Monday, September 11, 2023  
Zoom Call Meeting Online & In Person**

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order: present- Ed, Mike, Nancy , Diana Todd, me, Jack Widness and Christine Colella joined later
2. Review of Agenda
  - We started with Diana reporting on HMCA because she had to go to another meeting
    - Management plan subcommittee
      - Review of biodiversity inventory
        - no endangered or rare species, some uncommon
        - ESH was not effective- spaces need to be bigger and not linear
        - no action needed for preservation, only priority is keeping invasives under control
        - 'rich northern hardwood', oak and beech stand, vernal pools and bogs should be particularly protected
      - management zones: still undecided whether to include them, concerned about timber harvesting, other issues
      - county forester will be attending a meeting and share his thoughts
      - Jenny Ramstetter has been invited to share her thoughts (former Biology professor at Marlboro College,
      - Writing process: considering different methods
3. Approval of regular meeting minutes
4. Reports
  - a. Chair's Report
    1. Nat'l Grid ROW repair: met with selectboard, they approved engaging services of a contractor, Zack Grover, in October
    2. VAST proposals (trail repair, Quonset Hut cleanup, BBQ): selectboard approved these
    3. T-bar retractors: no progress on this, when trail is repaired we can get to them and maybe find people to

b. HMCA report: new volunteers have been helping with trail repairs, Bob has been making new signs to direct hikers to avoid lawn. Successful display at the Marlboro Fair. Nancy had some suggestions: would like to see in writing what the VAST agreement is, if there are amendments to the facility use form. Also suggested that some HPC and/or HMCA members could attend the event to check it out. Another issue is that part of the national grid lease from VAST (1000 dollars) is for the tower trail. Now that it will increase by 4% each year, would it make sense for the amount set aside for trail maintenance to proportionally increase. Some discussion if the trail maintenance was in writing currently, if not it was suggested to put it in writing.

c. SVNHM Report: the museum is closed for an indefinite period of time due to building conditions. They need to be out by next June, and are looking intensely for another location.

#### 5. Old Business

a. Metcalf map, showing commercial components- motion made and approved for Diana to use the maps

b. First Aid Building: nothing new

#### 8. New Business

Nancy- question- metal detecting: is it allowed or not? Are there exceptions? Management plan says metal detectors and removal of items is prohibited (page 13). There are supposed to be signs to this effect, but there are no signs stating that currently. Suggestion that we should post signs.

9. Adjournment: motion approved to adjourn