

Ferrisburgh Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 12, 2024

Members in attendance: Anne Cohn, Courtney Katnetzky, Robert Coleburn, Barry Estabrook. Guests: Clark Hinsdale, Katie Raycroft-Meyer.

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM in the Ferrisburgh Town Hall.

1. **Review and approval of meeting minutes:** The minutes for January 8, 2024 were approved. Committee minutes and agendas can be found at https://www.ferrisburghvt.org/vertical/sites/%7BB16C9BC8-6A0C-4814-B183-6F54A75E8A13%7D/uploads/FTC_Minutes_01092023.pdf
2. **Municipal Planning Grant Kickoff** – Katie Raycroft-Meyer of Addison County Regional Planning started the meeting by reviewing the grant proposal and the scope of work. Katie has been hired by the Trails Committee as a consultant to help us create a Travel and Trails Master Plan to expand and enhance the existing trail network in Ferrisburgh. We have a little less than a year to develop and complete the plan. / Katie encouraged the committee to setup a table with a map at Town Meeting Day to get citizens to think about trails in the community. She will see about getting us a map that we can use. Public input is very important to develop our travel plan. / Katie would like the Committee to focus on developing clear and concise goals and a purpose and needs statement for trails in the community. / We need to develop and compile a base map that includes information on roads, property lines, existing trails, and natural resources.
3. **Trails should be part of Town Plan** – Clark stressed the importance of stating the need for trails in the Town Plan. The Town plan should have language stating that trails are in the public interest and a community benefit. Hopefully using the leverage of the Town through vehicles such as Planning and Zoning and Planned Unit Development (PUD) will encourage the development of trails. The Town Plan is due sometime in 2025 but most of the work to prepare the Town Plan will be done in 2024.
4. **Rt 7 Hinsdale Property** – Clark brought a map of the Rt 7 property that he recently purchased. The land is directly across from the Rokeby Museum. The committee plans to walk the property with Clark soon to evaluate the potential for a trail.
5. **Pierce/Shlansky Property** – This property is located roughly between Rt 7 and Greenbush Rd. in the Lewis Creek/Loven Ln/Pierce Ln area. Proposed housing lots in this area are in early stages of permitting. It's early days but there may be a possibility of trails in this location.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Committee members will look at the possibility of a short connector trail at the eastern end of the Rokeby property to get to the access trail to the Town Forest.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm

Next Meeting will be on March 11th, 7pm at the Town Hall.

