



Town of Warner, New Hampshire
Mink Hills Recreation Study Committee
Thursday, September 1, 2022
MINUTES
IN-PERSON MEETING
Warner Town Hall, 7:00 pm

Attending: Sarah Allen, Craig Tufts and Vincent (CNHRPC), David Minton, Peter Bates, and Nancy Martin. Arlon Chaffee from the public. Sarah announced that Bill Dragon has resigned from the committee. We need a replacement from the Bound Tree Snowmobile Club. Sarah will contact Bill Simpson from the Bound Tree Club. Sarah will also reach out to Jon France, Warner Fire Chief, with an invitation to attend. Dave Minton commented that his Mink Hills neighbor didn't get a postcard announcing the Sept. 8th meeting.

Since we didn't have a quorum, the group will postpone review of August minutes.

Sarah raised the question of local concerns that the September 8th meeting of Mink Hills landowners was for the purpose of closing Class VI roads in the Minks. Peter spoke with Allie Monk and Chuck Rose about their concerns and the opportunity to provide input at the meeting. Peter also sent out an email encouraging snow mobilers to attend. Andy asked what percent of attendees do we think will have this point of view. Craig commented that we need to be clear that we do not as yet have any recommendations regarding recreational uses in the Minks. Sarah's opening introductory remarks will address these concerns and explain the MH study group's mission as handed down by the Select Board.

Craig described the planned format of the September 8th meeting. CNHRPC staff and committee members will arrive at 6:00 to set up. There will be a sign-in sheet to identify landowners, public participants, Warner residents (Y/N), organizational affiliation and participants' emails to notify them when the meeting report and draft plan are posted on the town website. There will be 4 breakout groups, each with 10 or so participants. Nancy will hand out agendas when people sign in. Each agenda will have one of four colored stickers to identify which break out session to attend. Nancy will reserve the Sugar River Bank's Community Room as a back up space for a break out group in case the space in Town Hall is too crowded and noisy. Arlon got permission to use the porch at the coffee shop because it would be closer to Town Hall and might be better for a breakout session. We won't have participants on Zoom, since they won't be able to participate in breakout sessions.

Craig will define qualifiers for Class VI roads. He will bring maps with explanation of methodology used to identify road conditions listed on each map. Meeting Maps: 1)Base map, 2)Road conditions, 3)Trails for People and Wildlife. Maps will be available for each breakout group. He will discuss recreational activities the MH group has studied, tying our work to the Warner Master Plan. CNHRPC will write a report on common themes coming from answers to the same 5 questions posed to each breakout group. 1) What's special about the Minks? 2) What are the barriers to use of the Minks? 3) What are your thoughts about road maintenance? 4) ? 5) ? Everything must be written down incorporating consensus and/or disagreement. Craig and CNHRPC staff will present the questions and oversee discussions in each breakout session lasting 25-30 minutes. MH committee members can be note takers, "floaters," and time keepers. After breakouts, participants will return to large group, with a volunteer from each session reporting out their group's key points. The whole meeting will last 90 minutes. CNHRPC staff will huddle to distill breakout notes and turn the bullets into common themes.

Christine will get the Town Policy Class VI roads and on ATV's in the Minks as we might need them.

Next steps: Thank you's; CNHRPC will distill comments and draft report on meeting results; MH committee will post meeting report on town website and draft recommendations.

Next Meeting: October 4th 7:00 at the Lower Meeting Room in Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Martin". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Nancy Martin
Mink Hills Recreational Study Committee