HMCA Activity Report for 11/8/2021 HPC meeting

Below are the highlights of activities undertaken by HMCA for the period 9/15/2021-11-8-2021:

* Photo Foray, our first public event since the beginning of the pandemic, was successful and introduced some new people to our trails as well as supplying us with new photos to be used on our kiosks and website. Our thanks to Cherrie Cory for leading a vibrant, engaging event.
* After the September special town meeting approving transfer of the Hogback Preservation Fund, HMCA received $116,946.70, the full amount of the Fund and deposited it into a separate, new checking account that will be used to track the Endowment Fund's annual receipts and expenses.
* HMCA is working on an agreement with the Vermont Community Fund (VCF) to manage the investments of the Hogback Mountain Endowment Fund. The first annual distribution from the fund would be in February and will be minimal. HMCA plans to formulate a modest, yet realistic budget and withhold that amount from what is transferred to VCF for investment.
* Volunteers who signed up for our Adopt a Trail Program have begun sending in reports on the conditions of the trails, Conditions have been wetter and muddier than usual so improvements in certain areas would be a good idea - the future may always be "wetter than usual."
* HMCA Ad Hoc Invasives Management committee held a meeting over zoom to work on the final details of invasive plant management plans for each species found on the property.
* As an outgrowth of the work mentioned above, some HMCA Board members participated in an on-site event, Wednesday, October 13. The group conducted a review of selected sites with terrestrial invasives and used the CalTopo map smart phone app to record findings and refine some of the details of infestations.
* On Monday, October 25 one HMCA Board member and his guest revisited six invasives sites that had not been visited in the past several years. This work is critical to our management of invasive plants on the property, as it gives us up to date information and allows us to prioritize volunteer control efforts.