



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS

WINDHAM FORESTRY COMMITTEE

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www.WindhamNH.gov/committees/forestry-committee

Minutes for March 24, 2017 (DRAFT)

Community Development Meeting Room

Public Invited to Attend

Call to Order at 1:10pm

- a. In attendance, Wanda Rice, Norm Babineau, and Brian McFarland. Jim Fricchione (Jim Fr.) and Jim Finn (Jim Fi.) were not in attendance.

1. Next Meeting Date and Time: Tentatively planned for the 3rd Wednesday or 3rd Thursday of every month, in the evening, starting in May. The exact date, time, and location is to be determined. There will be no April 2017 meeting.

Reports on Action Items from Last Meeting

- 2. Approve January 13th Meeting Minutes.** Brian motioned to approve. Wanda Seconded. Norm, Wanda, and Brian vote to approve. Motion passed 3-0-0.
- 3. Bylaws and Funding Warrant Article Update from Town Meeting**
 - a. The Committee is appreciative and would like to thank the Town for passing the McIlvaine Town Forest Bylaws and Funding Warrant Articles #25 and #26, both related to Forestry Committee.
 - b. Wanda will look into the town requirements regarding the number of proposals that must be received and for what dollar amount.

New Business

4. Trail Work Quotes

- a. Wanda received a quote from Alpha Tractor Works.
- b. The Committee discussed whether to build a new trail that would have two water crossings or to keep the current trail with one water crossing. A reroute would avoid the steep hill and washed out areas by the pond. The Committee also discussed the ramifications of clearing out the washed out soil, which would reconnect the pond to the inlet and outlet, but would lower the water level.
- c. Wanda will email Wayne Morris of the Trails Committee to get on their next agenda to continue the discussion of the Loop Trail, bridge construction and boulder placement in conjunction with the Wood Meadows Development.
- d. Wanda will also contact the Conservation Commission to seek permission to mark out the Loop Trail, which partially will cross through lands owned by the Conservation Commission.

5. Weston Road Trail Easement

- a. Norm will follow back up with Dick Gregory for guidance on the Weston Trail easement.
- b. The Town has authority to make improvements and mark the trail, but the Committee would like to know specifically who has the authority and ideally, the Committee would like to put in a stone dust trail with trail markers.

6. Review Master Plan and Brainstorm 2017 Projects

- a. Committee reviewed Master Plan with a focus on prioritizing 2017 projects.
- b. Committee will focus on marking the Loop Trail with a single color and then will decide on kiosks and marking other, connecting trails.
- c. Depending on the progress made with the Loop Trail, the Committee may then start on the 3 Cellar Hole Tour Trail and the Simpson Cellar Hole Parking, along with historic improvements and clearing of the McIlvaine Cellar Hole Area.
- d. Committee will temporarily hold off on Spear Hill Road Access Bridge as this pertains to the Woods Meadow Development.
- e. The Committee may install a handicap accessible trail. The likely location would be from Weston, which is flatter terrain.
- f. The Committee never heard back the NEMBA (New England Mountain Bike Association) to develop trails in the southern half of the property.
- g. Norm updated trails on OpenStreetMaps, which is an open sourced, crowd sourced platform that shows trails.
- h. Brian will research wildlife cameras for next meeting for the Committee to explore options for wildlife monitoring.
- i. The Committee would like to sponsor forest tours, particularly after the Loop Trail is marked later this year.
- j. Wanda will email Dave Sullivan and Jack from the Transfer Station to ask permission about installing a gate at the Landfill Town Forest Access Road, which is the best place to install a gate to limit access into the Town Forest and limit ATV access to the Town Landfill.
- k. Norm will get an additional gate quote from Fences Unlimited.
- l. UNH will be back to visit the UNHCE Wildflower Meadow project. There is a chance flowers will come up in the Spring, but it could likely take a few years. The Committee may spread more seeds at the landing.
- m. Installing duck boxes would be a good Scouts project.
- n. Brian will share for next meeting the Monitoring Plan Template that he developed for the Conservation Commission, which includes a component for monitoring invasive species.

7. National Trails Day

- a. National Trails Day is Saturday, June 3rd
- b. Committee might sponsor an event, such as a town cleanup day.

8. Vernal Pool Workshop

- a. There is a 1-day Vernal Pool Workshop on Wednesday, April 19th in Concord.
- b. The Workshop is run by the NH Association of Natural Resource Scientists and Antioch University.
- c. The cost to attend is \$80.
- d. Wanda would like to attend.
- e. Norm motioned to approve sending one person to attend the Workshop and for the Committee to cover the admission cost. Brian Seconded. Norm, Wanda, and Brian vote to approve. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Norm motioned to adjourn, Wanda seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm.