

Windham Forestry Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 22, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

Wanda Rice – Chair
Norman Babineau – Vice Chair
Holly Hanford Oliver – Secretary
Wayne Morris – Conservation Commission
James Finn – Conservation Commission

Wanda called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm

DISCUSSION:

Wanda reported having asked Dave where we could store the forestry committee's correspondence letters and documents. Wayne thinks we need our own file cabinet. Holly wants to know if it can be done electronically. Norm will ask Laura, Nicole, and Eric their opinions for storage options.

Norm motioned to reconsider whether to add the resident's letter to the November minutes, and wants to add correspondence to our file. Wanda motioned not to add letter to minutes, Jim seconded. Motion approved 5-0-0.

Norm wonders about level of detail of meeting minutes. Wayne felt the current level of detail is adequate, Jim and Holly agreed. Wanda motioned to accept Dec minutes, Jim seconded, Wayne abstained. Motion approved 4-0-1.

Harvest update – completed in January. Wanda asked Mike questions, he said one check left to collect, and concrete blocks removed in spring. Rocks across road – Norm in favor to keep vehicles out, Wanda will have them place boulders in spring when they pick up blocks. Wanda wants Mike to double check stream crossings in spring for debris and water bars. Check of \$70,516.92 (bid was \$69,995.33) made from harvest, \$14,500 operating costs, total \$42,216.92 check due to forestry. Wanda will walk check to admin when received.

Next newspaper article – Wanda working on it.

Forestry Fund report – Wanda reported on interest in account.

Tree Farm designation – Wanda received paperwork today. MTF officially certified as a NH Tree Farm through 2022. Will find a place to publically post certificate.

NHTOA membership research – Jim spoke with them about conservation memberships and discovered they are not affiliated. Decided not to pursue membership at this time.

Forest pictures on our webpage – Norm wants to add our own photos post-harvest in spring.

Web page updates – Norm wonders about web links between conservation and forestry pages. Jim will look into it.

Motorized OHRV updates/feedback – letters sent, no evidence of ATV use since then.

Tree stands – Wanda wonders what to do with collected stands. Discussed giving away vs. recycling. Norm motioned to dispose due to liability, Jim seconded. Motion approved 5-0-0.

Trail planning process – Wanda wondered if we should invite public. Norm feels we should reach out to scouts, historical commissions, and trail committee for help. Wayne wants 3-cellar hole tour. Wanda sees this as a long-range project.

Long term project planning – Wanda suggests surveying property boundary, building and marking trails, trail signage. Norm wants new forest stewardship plan, emergency needs (trees down, erosion), invasive plant/insect control (hire Mike), open area at landing. Norm would like the ideas in a document with timeline.

Report on Hemlock pathogen workshop – Holly attended workshop on Woolly Adelgid and feels good about leaving the MTF hemlocks in place, despite evidence of the pest. Learned about ways of controlling it and shared workshop materials.

Review NH State Forest Nursery catalog – Norm ordered and reviewed available plants and packages.

Review Harvest Timeline for updates. Norm reviewed changes and closed out all items.

Wayne discussed tax map and lots not merged on website, viewed on overhead projector.

Wayne motioned to adjourn, Wanda seconded. Motion approved 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Next meeting is planned for Friday, March 18 at 1:00 pm in the CDD room.

Forest Management Timeline Update (1/21/16)

EVENT	TIMING	OWNER	STATUS
Competitive bidding on forest management	Completed Fall 2014	Committee	BSF bid approved 12/5
Post tree hunting stands for removal	Completed Fall 2014	Wanda/Norm/Holly	2 Stands Posted, +1 at Osgood
Submit 2014 annual town/state reports	Completed Winter 2014-15	Norm/Wanda	Town and State submitted.
Removal of any remaining tree hunting stands	Completed Winter 2014-15	Norm/Wanda	2 Stands Removed 3/6
Letter to CCD for notification and technical review	Completed Winter 2014-15	Wanda	Wanda delivered
General article on forest management benefits	Completed Winter 2014-15	Wanda	Wanda published
Mark trees to be harvested	Completed Spring 2015	Forester	Weeks of 3/16 - 4/21
Newspaper/web article about forest wildlife	Completed Spring 2015	Committee	Wanda published vernal info
BOS approval to use Landfill for access landing	Completed Spring 2015	Wanda/Committee	5/18 BOS meeting
Newspaper/web article with status and goals	Completed Spring 2015	Wanda	Wanda published Silviculture
CDD Technical Review Committee	Completed Spring 2015	Wanda/Committee	5/26 Meeting
Public Forestry Workshop & Education	Completed Spring 2015	Committee	6/2 Meeting
Planning Board public hearing	Completed Spring 2015	Wanda/Committee	6/17 Hearing
Post "No Motorized Vehicles" signs	Completed Spring 2015	Wanda	6/19 (4) signs
Harvest logger bid process initiated	Completed Summer 2015	Forester	6/23 Viewing
Remove hunting stand near Corliss	Completed Summer 2015	Wanda/Norm	6/29 Eric R. assisted
Approve logger high bid.	Completed Summer 2015	Committee	7/10 Meeting
Sign logger contract	Completed Summer 2015	Wanda	8/6 Signed contract
File intent to cut with town	Completed Summer 2015	Forester	Mike submitted, Wanda to check
File wetlands impact forestry notification	Completed Summer 2015	Forester	Mike submitted, ok rec from DES
Harvesting activities	Completed Winter 2016	Forester/Logger	January 2016
2016 Budget to fund memberships, workshops, etc.	Completed Fall 2015	Committee	Town \$ from existing budgets
Submit 2015 annual town/state reports	Completed Winter 2016	Committee	Wanda submitted