

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES for JUNE 27, 2012

Opening: Steve Russell called the meeting of the Town Forest Committee to order at 7:17 on June 27, in the Town Hall.

Present: Brent Francis, Pat Mainer, Jason Reed, Chuck Reiss, Steve Russell, Brooke Scatchard

Absent: Wayne Bissonette, Stewart Pierson, Paul Wiczorek

Guests: Mike Potvin

Approval of minutes of May 2, 2012

Pat moved to approve the minutes of May 2. Chuck seconded. The minutes were approved.

Update on the Justin Kenney work

Steve reported that on Monday the VYCC got started on the wet area on the Eagle's trail and will close it up. Also Justin gave a contract to Bill Atwood to work on section 3. He will make sure he can travel through sections one and two. When he is finished he'll leave sections one and two so they, also, don't erode.

Update on the Michael Lew- Smith Report

The bill was \$960 instead of \$780 because Michael did a little more work and looked at other areas without trails. The committee will only ask FOTW to pay for half of \$780. Coming up we will need to put that report and Dave Adams' report together and decide if we will go ahead with the Vermont Recreation Trails grant that FOTW has applied for us.

Fish & Wildlife License for Lewis Creek / Copp Welch property

The State would like us to not allow horseback riding and mountain biking on the Loop Trail, which is the only trail in the LHTF where those activities are now allowed. The trails committee also recommends that we not allow mountain biking and horseback riding on the Loop Trail on the LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest. Steve moved to change the management plan of the LHTF to not allow mountain biking and horseback riding on the Loop trail, based on the location of that trail. Pat seconded. The motion carried. Pat will look into how to do this.

Salvage Operation

Steve has no new info. Keith was going to talk to Bill Torrey to see if Bill thought there was any useful timber in the salvage area for our signs. Steve will follow-up with Keith.

Forest Management Plan Final Draft Vote

Chuck moved to submit the June 15 Hinesburg Town Forest Management Plan Draft to the Selectboard for its review and approval. Brooke seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and one abstention. Steve will tell Joe that we are ready for July 9.

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Other Business

Mike presented Brooke's map showing the safety zones within the HTF. Discussion followed with some minor changes to the map.

Steve said he doesn't want to see signs in the Town Forest to show safety zones. A homeowner could request that signs be posted. Discussion of educational strategies followed.

Next meetings

August 1, 7:00, regular meeting.

Adjournment

Pat moved to adjourn. Chuck seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Mainer

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