

Windham Forestry Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, March 18, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

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

Wanda called the meeting to order at 1:12 pm

DISCUSSION:

Norm motioned to approve January meeting minutes, Wanda seconded. Motion approved 4-0-0.

Harvest update – Mike said he can add large rocks when blocks are removed and ground dries out – TBD. Wanda wants them placed at head of logging access road to prevent drive-through.

Tree Stand disposal completed on 2/4 by Norm.

Newspaper articles – Wanda wrote wood article for paper and posted on website.

Forestry Fund report and timber tax payment status, fund report \$56,030.44. Timber tax status – Mike sent report to town, checking on status of tax bill. Norm wants to give report to BOS after Wanda checks with tax assessor. Dave will help us fund forestry expenses this year if needed.

Tree Farm designation – Wanda put framed certificate in CDD. Needs to get signs from Mike.

Web page updates – Discussion on putting links between Forestry and Conservation. Norm will talk to Wendi about linking the two committees.

Retaining records of committee business and correspondence – Norm spoke with Nichole and got letter outlining turning over yearly bound final meeting minutes for the town records. Wanda will start putting binder together. Holly will make MM margins bigger on left side for binding.

Warrant article update and 2016 funding – In the future, we need to track review process to make sure they pass through.

Bunny Blitz at Benson Park – Holly attended on 2/27. Discussed DNA sampling of pellets and how to make MTF bunny-friendly. Wanda talked about planting native flowers on the landing and will research further.

MTF trapping discussion – Holly wants committee to consider banning trapping in MTF as with Campbell Farm, Wayne agreed. Possible trapping bylaws added for 2017.

2015 NH Wildlife Action Plan session – Norm attended 2/17. NHF&G has detailed plan for conserving local wildlife, Norm recapped and shared his materials.

Windham Master Plan forestry input – Norm will contact Laura about WFC having input.

Long-term project planning discussion and ideas – Discussed next steps for leveling/improving the trails ASAP. WFC plans to do start doing trail layout and restoration work in coming week. Wanda discussed surveying property and costs, possibly 2017-18. Tree farm designation signs to post. Norm wants 5-year invasives assessment from forester. Norm reviewed other habitat and forest management suggestions included in the WFC long-term planning document.

Wanda motioned to adjourn, Norm seconded. Motion approved 4-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:01 pm.

Next meeting is planned for Friday, April 15 at 1:00 pm in the CDD room.