



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS

WINDHAM FORESTRY COMMITTEE

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www.windhamnh.gov/297/Forestry-Committee

Minutes for July 20, 2023 (DRAFT)

Community Development Building - Public Invited to Attend – 7:00pm

Call to Order at 7:07pm

- a. In attendance: Wanda Rice (Chair), Norm Babineau (Vice Chair), Dave Curto (Conservation). Brian McFarland (Secretary) excused, and Jacob Cross (Regular Member) was absent.

1. Annual Election of Officers

- a. Norm motioned to keep the officer assignments the same as last year. Wanda as Chair, Norm as Vice Chair and Brian as Secretary. Dave seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

2. Approve December 2022 Meeting Minutes

- a. On hold for a quorum of meeting attendees.

3. Wildlife Release Updates

- a. Wanda has been volunteering with Windham's Millstone Wildlife Center. They care for and rehabilitate orphaned or injured wild animals, specializing in small mammals. Raccoons, fox, porcupine and a bobcat been rehomed into the McIlvaine Town Forest this year allowing them to continue their lives in the wild.

4. McIlvaine Town Forest Brush Fire

- a. Tuesday May 16th Windham Fire Department responded to reports of smoke from the direction of the McIlvaine Town Forest. Upon investigation they found fire burning in the forest in an area near Osgood Rd. Several surrounding communities assisted in bringing the brush fire under control with approximately 4 acres being damaged. The larger trees in the area survived and the fire was stopped before endangering our prized big chestnut tree. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. It is estimated that the burned understory should be fully recovered in 5 years. Thanks to all who assisted in bringing the situation under control.

5. Trail Signage & Mapping

- a. Our new trail leading to the McIlvaine cellar hole will need GPS mapping done. Once completed new maps can be produced for the kiosks.

6. Hunting Tree Stands

- a. Hunting is and allowed activity in the McIlvaine Town Forest. Our property bylaws specify all hunting tree stand must be removed from the property by January 31st. Any tree stands found in the forest after this date will have a note attached. If not removed NH Fish & Game will be notified for removal.

7. Trail Work

- a. Work will be needed to remove a down tree across the trail and cutting back brush on some other portions of trail. Norm will mow the access road to the Wildflower Meadow.

8. Forestry Fund

- a. Dave will do some further research on how Pelham expend their forestry funds.

Norm motioned to adjourn; Dave seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:26pm.