

New Boston, New Hampshire
Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes

Draft Meeting Minutes for the October 21,

Called to order at 5:33PM

Members present: Tom Miller, Carter Brown, Joe Constance, Kim DiPietro, Willard Dodge, Dave Kent, Graham Pendlebury

Past minutes – September 16 minutes accepted following KD motion and second by GP

Treasurer's Report –

Forestry Maintenance Account Cap is \$50,000

CB presented the Treasurer's reports for September and October.

Ending Balance for September 9, 2019 is: \$27,998.79

Ending Balance for October 21, 2019 is: \$28,000.83

The reports were approved and accepted following a KD motion and a second by GP.

Agenda Discussion

Lovejoy Memorial Project

The committee reviewed the first draft for the Lovejoy plaque. The wording and Mr. Lovejoy's picture in a raised relief will be set in a bronze plaque. WD and GP have identified a mounting stone. KD will get a quote with a raised relief picture. Final draft/quote to go to the committee for review.

TM reported he walked the nature trail and marked trees of interest with yellow flags. Signs identifying the trees in English and in Latin will be ordered, set on marine plywood attached to a metal stake and placed near each tree.

Follansbee timber harvest -

Tom walked the lot again and noticed that last cut did not result in a good seed set for white pine. White pine has a 5-7 year seed cycle. Pines are being overwhelmed by beech saplings. It is estimated that the young pine has a 90% mortality rate due to beech growth. Several options for improving the situation were discussed leading to a proposal by TM.

The **proposal** is to deal with the beech and low productivity of Pine on both sides of the road. It was proposed that this summer, a UNH forestry intern with Tom's supervision cut the beech saplings and leaving them on the ground. In the first following Winter when there has been good pinecone production, the committee will commission a cut of selected white pine. That cut will also disturb the surface soil and aid in the propagation of new growth white pine as part of a 10-year partial lot harvest cycle.

A motion to accept the proposal by KD and second by CB. Approved by all.

Christmas trees: TM will meet with school board to confirm planting dates and student numbers. Trees will be procured from the VT tree farm.

Elliot land: GP reached out to Dave Elliott and is waiting to hear back from Dave.

Summer Intern Position.

TM approached UNH to discuss summer forestry interns and pay rates. It was agreed that an intern pay rate of \$12.00hr. was appropriate for a student with no experience. An experienced student with a work history in the field would receive \$15.00hr. Travel mileage costs would be paid regardless of experience. TM will confirm with UNH the committee's interest in having one forestry summer intern for a 12-week period. The intern would help with:

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Town forest management plan maintenance and reporting requirements
Follansbee work as proposed
Christmas tree maintenance
Trail checks, maintenance and invasive plant control
Timber inventory and seed cycle records

Conservation Committee and working with the Planning Board

The forestry committee members were asked to re-schedule their attendance to December 5 @ 7pm.

There was a discussion on the engagement of town committees in support of the planning board land development approval process. In the past, committees would comment on development application. This practice has stopped. There was a shared concern that the conservation, open space and forestry benefits are underrepresented in initial development proposals. Engagement of these perspectives early in the process is important to understand the impact of developer's plans and avoid bringing up issues late in the development cycle. This is particularly of interest when development abuts priority lots, conserved areas and town forests.

Discussion points for the meeting with Conservation on December 5:

1. The advantage in attending the planning board meetings to collect information and represent combined interests in protecting land particularly where it involves priority lots, and abuts conserved areas or town land
2. combining forces to identify important parcels of land to acquire for protection before they are developed
3. sharing the intern position and cost
4. discussion of the Elliot property

Beacon article-

KD prepared notes on the history of the New Boston Forestry Committee for the next article by JC

Printer and paint locker

TM spoke with a service person and learned a technique for getting the printer to work.
CB and TM will check condition of paint inventory

New Business

Work party:

Lydia Dodge, Nov 3, 23 and Dec 7, 21.

Meeting place is the yellow gate leading to woods road in Lydia Dodge West, about ½ mile west of transfer station.

Open yellow gate to allow parking.

All available members will attend.

Next meeting November 18, 2109

Meeting adjourned 6:59 PM