

## **MINUTES OF FORESTRY COMMITTEE FOR October 10, 2016**

In attendance: T. Miller, K. DiPietro, G. Pendlebury, J. Constance

Tom Miller called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM Ben St. Amand arrived at 5:40 PM.

The minutes of the August meeting were reviewed with no changes and Kim DiPietro made a motion to approve as submitted. Graham Pendlebury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

A discussion then ensued regarding the property owned by Mark Damien on the corner Tucker Mill and Saunders Hill Road.

J. Constance gave an overview of the negotiations with Mr. Damien to date noting that he was not disposed to accept the initial proposal of the Forestry Committee where he would surrender the entire parcel by the river bordering the Betsy Dodge lot in exchange for a parcel of roughly one acre that abuts his property.

K. DiPietro then pointed out that until very recently the Forestry Committee did not know that it owned the property on the corner of Saunders Hill Road and has never recognized it as part of the Follansbee lot. She also noted that the Town has always sought to preserve land that abutted the river. She went on to state that he has to move the sheds no matter what settlement is agreed upon. She also emphasized that if the entire parcel on by the river is joined with the Betsy Dodge lot it would constitute a very valuable lot for the town and thus prevent any future building on the site. T. Miller advocated classifying the corner lot as a non-building lot with a fifty foot non-cut buffer 50 feet from the town owned corner lot.

Ben St. Amand suggested cutting the trees on the corner lot before swap. It was the consensus of the Committee not to do this.

The Committee concluded the discussion of the matter by charging J. Constance and Ken Lombard to meet with Mr. Damien to discuss swapping the corner lot for the entire parcel down by the river.

T. Miller then presented a map of the Colby lot he drew after work done with Ben St. Amand in August. He said the borders were certain enough to proceed to the next step in the Tree Farm system which was to stake out six sample plots, then measure and note the diameter of all trees over three inches diameter and their types in each circular plot of 37 feet. Each plot is roughly 1/10<sup>th</sup> of acre. Once completed the specifics would then be given to John Nute of the N.H. Extension service so he can help develop a forest plan for the site and revise his original plan of 6/96.

K. DiPietro noted that Tree Farm specifics are at available at:

[www.nhtreefarm.org](http://www.nhtreefarm.org)

T. Miller asked for volunteers for a work party, noting that it would be better to do the work soon while the leaves were still on the trees. A date was set for Thursday October 20, at 1:00 PM

T. Miller asked J. Constance to communicate with Carter Brown to order a diameter tape for the work party and some marking tape and paint. J. Constance said he would do so the next day.

T. Miller then noted that he had spoken with the Road Agent regarding filling up some sink holes near the road adjacent to the ball field. The Road Agent told him that the crew would do so soon to prevent any accidents. He also suggested cutting taller trees from cook shack to behind home plate, a job which could be added to the Transfer Station cut.

T. Miller also suggested some parameters for the cut which met with general approval. These included:

1. A protective fence
2. No slash on trails
3. No slash over 12 inches high
4. Landing areas have to be seeded

K. DiPietro then reported on trip to Durgin and Powell Industries as part of a seminar presented by N.H. Sustainable Forestry Initiative. She noted that they take their certification process for forest plots even further than NH Tree Farm.

The next meeting date was set for November 14 , 2016 at 5:30 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

J. Constance