

West Windsor Town Forest Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the meeting April 25, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Members attending: Cathy Boedtke, Mark Nowlan, Dennis Conley, Dennis Lemire, Randy Perry, Rudy Gross, Laura Stillson and Jim Lyall. Also in attendance: Jason Rasmussen from SWCRPC, Town Select board members Glenn Seward, Bruce Boedtke and Tom Kenyon, and forestry consultant Tii McClane.

Cathy Boedtke brought up a discussion about expanding the use of the trail system. Dennis moved that the discussion be added to the agenda. It was seconded and passed. Discussion followed:

Glenn laid out the case for the need for an economic stimulus in town. Based on his research into the experience of others in the state, promoting the use of mountain biking, hiking and cross-country skiing trails can provide a significant stimulus with a minimum of impact.

There was discussion about whether that use fits with the stated interest of the town residents. The immediate interest of the committee and the selectboard is to make Tii McClane aware of this possibility and for her to consider this use in her evaluation of the property, and perhaps to concentrate on this part of the land first. Glenn indicated that there will be further meetings to discuss the issue and present it to the public for comment.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

Tii McClane plans to transect the property and note natural communities then look at the map layer of trails and see where sensitive areas and trails intersect. She will concentrate first on the area below 1700 ft. – the area that forest harvesting and trails should be restricted to at the least. She will look at managing the forest for wildlife and views as well as locating marketable timber. She will also consider a reroute of the Bicentennial trail, due to erosion.

Laura asked that we look at relocating the Bicentennial Trail due to erosion .

The highway department will fix the road this summer but for now a sign will be posted, closing the road.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Lyall, secretary