

West Windsor Town Forest Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the meeting February 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm. Members attending: Cathy Boedtke, Mark Nowlan, Dennis Conley, Dennis Lemire, Laura Stillson, Randy Perry, Rudy Gross and Jim Lyall.

Also in attendance: Jason Rasmussen from SWCRPC, Glenn Seward, Bruce Boedtke and Ashley Pakenham

Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

We discussed the process of developing a plan for the town forest. The purpose of the public meetings is to hear the interests and priorities of the residents. With help of consultants we will try to reconcile these interests with the resources and constraints of the land and establish locations and regulations for managing these desired uses.

At the public meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> we will assist the residents in prioritizing uses of and possible improvements to the town forest. The list presented will include:

Uses

Hiking and Jogging            Mountain Bicycling  
Snow shoeing            Cross-country Skiing  
Snowmobiling            Hunting  
Archery            Target Shooting  
Hang Gliding            Horseback Riding  
Nature Preserve  
Active Management for Wildlife Habitat Preservation  
Bird Watching / Animal Tracking            Firewood Cutting  
Commercial Logging            ATVs

Amenities / Improvement Projects

Expand the parking off Coaching Lane  
Trailhead/Information Kiosk  
Preserve Scenic Views of WWTF from the north  
Clear/Maintain Scenic Overlooks at key points within WWTF  
Picnic Tables

Actions:

The committee voted to:

1. Support the Selectboard's town meeting article to provide funds toward the purchase of the Mile Long Field property.
2. Hire Tii McClane as a consultant to assist us in developing the TF plan, if funding is provided by the town.

Discussions:

The following topics were discussed at the meeting without taking action:

Parking - Consensus: Having one parking lot allows for easier control and information dissemination (e.g. a kiosk. There is room to expand the existing lot if need be.

Picnic Tables - Consensus: Trash has not been a problem at the top of the Mile-Long Field. Limit to a single table at a few hike-accessible spots, and see how it works.

Who should be allowed to use the TF? - Consensus: It is too difficult to enforce restrictions. We need town input on whether and how to control use, perhaps by limiting publicity.

Orange Lakes - should members be encouraged/discouraged from using the TF resources? Consensus: solicit townspeople's input and Orange Lakes' help in planning and support.

Highway Department use of TF – Consensus: HD needs a place to put stumps and store some culverts. We need to work with them in determining the proper locations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Lyall, secretary