

Minutes of Town Forest Committee meeting February 6, 2014, Story Memorial Hall

Members in attendance: Dennis Lemire, Rudy Gross, Cathy Boedtke and Jim Lyall

Public Attendees: none

1. Meeting called to order: 6:35 PM.

2. Cathy asked to add a discussion of an upcoming SB meeting agenda item.

3. No public comment.

4. Trail grants update:

Cathy and Jim have made progress on the Recreational Trails Program grant. It is for improvements to Nimbus and an easier loop to connect with Burke Loop. The IMBA/Bell trail building grant is a little easier and Jim has done some preliminary work on it. They feel that they are on schedule to complete both applications by the February 28th deadline.

These grants are on an annual cycle, so we should be better prepared for next year, when Laura wants to apply for this grant for the Bicentennial re-route.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved

6. Town Forest Mission Statement:

Cathy made some changes which were unanimously approved as follows:

“The 1342 acre town forest was gifted to the town in 1979 by Gorham, Theodore, and Warren Cross. The Town of West Windsor wishes to conserve the health of the forest community and associated ecosystem while enabling public access for the enjoyment of a high quality outdoor experience away from noise, development and pollution.

The West Windsor Town Forest Committee, a group of volunteers from the town, appointed by the selectboard, shall serve in an advisory capacity in the oversight and management of the Town Forest. The Town Forest Committee shall embrace the responsibility of trail stewardship. The Select Board shall assign certain town forest related projects to the committee for completion in a prescribed timeline as deemed necessary by the Select Board.”

Cathy reported that the TFC paid for Ascutney Trails marketing without our knowledge or input. Rudy will ask for closer consultation.

7. Act 250 Amendment

We need to add the trail that we are asking for the RTP grant to build. We will continue to work on it after the grant deadline.

8. Discuss handicapped access law: discussion was tabled until next meeting when Laura Stillson, who has some experience with the issue, can give input.

9. Review survey material proposals: We reviewed the RFP from the last survey project, and determined that we can make some minor changes and add the “attached location plan” and forward to the SB for sending out for proposals. Jim said that the southerly boundary needs to be cleared up before we can amend the Act 250 permit, because we are unsure about the location of a trail.

10. No other business:

11. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Lyall, TFC Secretary