

Minutes of Town Forest Committee meeting January 10, 2013, Story Memorial Hall

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

Public Attendees: about a dozen, including Select board members Bruce Boedtke and Glenn Seward.

Meeting called to order: 6:35 p.m.

Act250 issues - the use of snowmobiles in the town forest.

Bruce Boedtke: Act 250 review was not our idea; it was forced by a local citizen; and the stipulation that no motorized vehicles be allowed was added by the state. It took over a year and many volunteer and paid hours to complete the application. To allow snowmobiles, we will have to re-apply. This will take time, as will a decision from the state.

Dennis Lemire: The TFC asked the SB to amend Act 250 for snowmobiles back in July. The SB has let it sit because they felt it was too soon after finally getting our permit.

Dennis Conley: I've been snowmobiling there for 15 years without any complaints. There is a new parking lot - it could handle snowmobile trailers. We can bring some needed tourist traffic through town.

Amy Wentworth stated her support for bringing more snowmobilers to town, as did Elvin Kaplan.

Glenn said that it is important to do this through the proper channels. TFC has to have a duly warned meeting to discuss an Act 250 amendment, then pass their decision on to the select board.

Rudy said that we will discuss such an amendment at our next meeting, February 7th.

It was suggested that since vehicles are permitted on the trails for maintenance purposes, that we ask the Conleys to maintain the road/trail from the gravel pit gate to Kimball Farm Rd.

The WWTFC passed the following motion with 4 ayes and one abstention:

The Town Forest Committee asks the select board to hire the Conleys, without pay, to maintain, with their snowmobile, the section of road/trail from the entrance to the town forest to Kimball Farm Road.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Lyall, TFC Secretary