

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

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

Public Attendees: none

1. Meeting called to order: 6:34 PM.
2. No changes or additions
3. Minutes of the previous meeting (February 6, 2014) were read and approved.
4. No public comment.
5. Trail Report: Plans were made to have Rich Thomas groom some trails for XC skiing, but it probably won't happen until next winter.
6. Grants: We submitted 2 trail grant applications. The Bell Built grant was denied, but we will resubmit next year. We won't hear about the Recreational Trails Program grant for a few months.
7. Town Forest Boundary Survey: Rudy's request for survey proposals was approved and will be forwarded to the select board.
8. Discuss handicapped access law as it relates to the town forest: the committee asked the select board to get legal advice on how we should proceed in satisfying the ADA law.
9. Other business:
 - a. Town Forest Committee mission statement: The committee accepted the mission statement as revised by the select board:
"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, environmental degradation 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."
 - b. Act 250 amendment update: Uncertainties about the southern boundary and trail land ownership may not be clarified until the survey is complete. Meanwhile we will move ahead with the amendment.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Lyall, TFC Secretary