

Minutes of Town Forest Committee meeting September 4, 2014, Story Memorial Hall

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

Public Attendees: none

1. Meeting called to order: 6:35 p.m.
2. No changes or additions
3. Minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved.
4. No public comment.
5. Trail Report: Jim reported that he removed many downed trees, and that trails had held up well in several intense downpours over the last month. Blue Dipper had been mowed with a wide swath to cut down all the poisonous parsnips. He worked on improvements to Gracie's Loop and a STAB trail day concentrated on the continuing construction of Broadway and Fifth. Related news: the beginner loop at the state park was completed and has been well received. Jim noted that this trail helps to fill the need for easier trails on Ascutney. Laura suggested that another beginner loop extend from the state park into the Weathersfield town forest and Jim said he would look into that possibility. Dennis asked about access to the loop for the emergency vehicle, and Jim said that the FAST squad should look into obtaining a gate key from the State Park and that he would look into clearing another logging road to keep access to the Little Loops open.
7. Act 250 Amendment. Jim reported that he has been working on photographing the stream crossings and drawing bridge designs. He is working with SWRPC on mapping.
11. View clearing at ravine overlook: Jim reported with pictures of view potential, and said that felling the trees was too dangerous for him to attempt due to cliffs. A professional might be asked to consider it, but he recommended that someone adept with ropes and harnesses could achieve the view opening with minimal branch trimming.
12. No other business.
13. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Lyall, TFC Secretary