

Forest Advisory Committee
December 4, 2013

Members Present: Ron Newbury, Dave Charrette, Rob Hatch, Janet Johnson, Janet Meyers, Ernie Day Jr.

Members Absent: Chuck Depew

Others Present: None

Minutes recorded by Dianne Park

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Minutes

There was a motion by Ron, seconded by Janet M., to approve the minutes from November 6, 2013 with changes. All were in favor.

Page 1, under "Review Scrub Oak Scramblers work party on October 19th of Town Forest" change "Steven Lane" to "Stephen Lane"

Wildlife Habitat Plan

Nothing new to report.

Logistics of Spring Bird Study

A work session will be scheduled for Mid-February to discuss and map out quadrants for the Spring Bird Study. The study will include turkeys & grouse.

Draft Public Info on Control Burn

The Nature Conservancy has a flier explaining their control burn of their pine barrens and Janet will look into getting a copy and re-write it for FAC use. The town forest cut is complete. This cut is preliminary to the control burn in 2015. Spring, 2015 a sign will be erected stating "Future location of control burn" and also including public information on the control burn.

Rob passed out a draft copy of the Easement Monitoring Inspection Report. The board had no issues.

Forester Update

The bid policy from the town selectmen is anything over \$1,000 goes out for bid and the lowest bid does not have to be picked. Ernie explained the policy. Rob has sent a letter to DRED asking for their endorsement of B. Keith as Freedom Town Forester. A discussion ensued. A Freedom Town Forest Estimated Sustainability Report was passed out. This report only looked at the Forest Maintenance Fund which in 2013 had \$81,509.29 and will last through 2028. Categories included yearly budget, yearly cut harvest and balance per year. There was a motion by Janet J., seconded by Dave, to contact 2 potential foresters and get a bid or refusal to bid for 2014. All were in favor. Rob informed the board he's already gotten 1 refusal to bid from Eaton Town Forester.

Invoice

B.H. Keith

Date - 12/2/13

Invoice # - 01-3075

Work Period ó 11/1/13 ó 11/30/13

Re: Pine Barrens Prescribed Burn Site Planning and Inspections

R. Gerard, Chief Forester, 7.0 hrs. at \$40/hr.

Total 280.00

There was a motion by Janet M., seconded by Janet J., to approve payment of \$280.00 to B.H. Keith for invoice #01-3075. All were in favor.

Ron explained his attendance at the seminars on "Laws for Municipal Forests:

There was a motion by Janet M., seconded by Janet J., to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.