

**Freedom Conservation Commission  
Forest Advisory Committee  
November 19, 2013**

**FCC Members:** Greg Bossart, Jim McElroy, Mike Gaudette, Alice Custard, Bill Elliott, RA Oram, John Roman (alternate), Sue Hoople (alternate)

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

**Members Absent:** Chuck Depew (FAC)

Minutes recorded by Dianne Park

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

**Minutes**

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Alice, to approve the minutes from October 15, 2013 as written. All were in favor.

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Bill, to approve the minutes from October 17, 2013 as written. All were in favor.

**Proposed 2014 Activity Schedule – Town Forest**

**The 2014 Budget Proposal**

**Breakdown of Costs**

Barry presented the 2014 Budget Proposal as:

<i>Forester</i>		\$ 6,000
<i>Maintenance Activities</i>		
- Maintain existing wildlife openings	\$ 2,500	
- Brontosaurus overgrown truck rd. (3 days work)	\$ 5,000	
- Road maintenance (replace 2 culverts, yolk rake, apply crushed gravel from airstrip)	\$10,000	
- Install new beaver control pipe	\$ 2,000	
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$19,500</i>	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>\$25,500</i>
- Town Forest Brochures (added by FAC)		\$ 450
	<i>Total</i>	<i>\$25,950</i>

The FAC asked that the \$5,000 for brontosaurus work be excluded from the 2014 budget and \$450 be added for brochures for town forest. Both board discussed all points in the budget.

Points discussed were:

- Location of the truck rd. and whether it needed brontosaurus work.
- Forester Fee and what that means.

The Forester Fee is covered by logging. In 2013 logging took in \$20,000 which covered this fee.

- Maintenance of wildlife openings
  - Up to this point \$4,000-\$5,000 was spent to maintain wildlife openings. No more wildlife openings will be created, only maintenance of existing openings.

- When will logging be stopped in town forest? The FCC wished to be notified 2-3 years away so they can set up a maintenance plan.
- Beaver pipe road width  
All stated this was wide enough for an emergency vehicle to get through.

The FCC chairman asked the FAC to prioritize the budget line items.

- #1 ó Apply crushed gravel from airstrip - \$10,000
- #2 ó Install new beaver control pipe ó \$2,000

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Bill, to accept the figure of \$20,950 and present this to the Board of Selectmen. All were in favor.

**Source of Estimates**

Oram asked the FAC for their sources for estimates and who was bidding. The FAC stated that SOS, Scott Brooks and Town of Freedom as well as a few outside contractors have submitted estimates for jobs. Multiple bids are always gotten but routinely awarded to SOS because they're always the lowest price. Rob stated he has walked the truck rd. with a private contractor to verify the \$10,000 figure and make sure the amount is correctly matched with work needed.

**Financial Update – Jim McElroy**

Jim passed out a spreadsheet of updated accounts and discussed all entries. There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Alice, to accept the Financial Update. All were in favor.

**FAC Report – Rob Hatch**

- Rocks were placed around the gates so golf carts could not get through
- Cleaned out water bars
- Fixed parking lot
- Pulled out broken beaver pipe
- Mowing of log landings
- Smaller telephone gates will be placed at Mount View and Steven Lane openings  
(2 more locks are needed for these gates)
- Counter weight was reset at the Pequawket Gate
- Part of the beaver pipe was removed
- New Freedom Town Forest sign installed on Pequawket Gate
- Annual DRED walkthrough of town forest went very well
- Logging completed and landing will be planted with winter rye and let grow
- Logging of the 20 acres for control burn is underway

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Jim, to accept the FAC Report. All were in favor.

**FAISC Report – Jim McElroy**

Jim passed out an updated FAISC Report

- Herbicide treatment completed with results being inconsistent but this treatment was inconsistent for all of NH this year.
- Additional hand pulling not done
- Quotes being requested for 2014 Milfoil Control Efforts

- Investigated report of possible Milfoil in Trout Pond and found it was Bladderwort not Milfoil
- Final reports have been submitted for the Lake Host Program. Modifications will be done next year.
- Attended meeting for Milfoil Control Funding Coalition. House Bill 292 has been revised and new proposal will increase boat registrations by \$2.00.

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Bill, to accept the FAISC Report. All were in favor.

**Intent to Cut Applications**

All applications were reviewed.

Janet Johnson will check and make sure a copy of the town forest map exists on the town website and put information informing the public of this in the Freedom Town Column.

**Unfinished Business**

**Approval of Invoices**

Scrub Oak Scramblers (SOS)  
Town Forest Mowing \$595.00

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Bill, to approve the payment of \$595.00 to SOS. All were in favor.

BH Keith  
11/01/13  
01-3065  
Activity period: October 1-31, 2013  
Re: Timber Sale Layout, Supervision, Forest Administration, Pine Barrens Prescribed Burn Area Site Planning, Annual State Monitor Meeting and Site Inspection.

BH Keith, Principal, 11.0 hrs. @ \$50/hr.	\$550.00
R. Gerard, Chief Forester, 13.25 hrs. @ \$40/hr.	\$530.00
Expenses: 1-50 lb. bag winter rye grass	\$ 29.95
Total	\$1109.95

There was a motion by Bill, seconded by Alice, to approve the payment of \$1109.95 for invoice #01-3065 for BH Keith. All were in favor.

Aquatic Control Technologies  
10/22/13  
Job # - C-13206-3  
Invoice # - 17964  
Re: Herbicide treatment and expenses \$1,800.00

There was a motion by Bill, seconded by Alice, to approve payment of \$1,800.00 for invoice #17964 to Aquatic Control Technologies. All were in favor.

NH Association of Conservation Commissions  
Membership Dues - \$220.00

There was a motion by Bill, seconded by Mike, to approve the payment of membership dues to the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. All were in favor.

Bill complimented Rob on the new town forest sign at the Pequawket Gate.

There was a motion by Mike, seconded by Jim, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.