

Forest Advisory Committee

Freedom Town Hall

June 6, 2018

Members Present: Ron Newbury, Janet Meyers, Chuck Dephew, Kevin Connerton(A), John Roman(A), Jeffery Towle Planning Board Rep, Ernie Day Selectman Rep, Dave Charrette

Members Absent:

Others Present: Donna Averill, Josh Shackford, Tim Nolan

Quorum: A quorum was met

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Chairman Ron Newbury presiding. The minutes from the May 2, 2018 meeting were reviewed as the first order of business.

Minutes

A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Ron to accept the minutes with the following amendments: page 1 under spring cleanup *Two yellow totem pole gates off Jackman Ridge Rd. change Jackman Ridge to Lake Rd. Top of Pg. 2 Signage at Trout Pond, Ron will contact David Charette to see if he can be available to paint ~~the sign~~ should read gravel. Jen should read Janet throughout page 2. All were in favor.*

Miscellaneous Correspondence/Invoices

None

Josh Shackford on behalf of Madison Selectboard

Josh Shackford and Madison Forrester Tim Nolin came before the FAC Committee to ask permission to use the first landing behind Trout Pond off Jackman Ridge Rd. to access a piece of property the town of Madison owns. Because the land is land locked the best way for Madison to access the property is being allowed to use and existing skid road that runs up the hill in the Town Forrest. Tim clarified what skid roads would be used, he also explained they would not be using skidders instead he would be doing a cut to length harvest and using a forwarder, where trees get cut down to various lengths and processed on the stump then the wood gets carried out as opposed to dragging it.

Tim said what he would propose if the Town of Freedom was amenable to it is having some sort of temporary use agreement drawn up that is like the special use agreement that you get to cross State or Federal land that specifies a bond be put in place and it would also state what is done to close the site out and return it to its existing state. Example the truck rd. would have to be put back into its current condition and reseed the landings. Tim went on to say he can provide references from the State Division of Forrest Lands and the U.S Forrest Service of jobs

Check future meeting minutes for any amendments or changes to these minutes

that he has done of this nature using their land to access property and fulfilled his obligation and received his bond back.

Janet asked Tim to estimate how many logging trucks would be needed. Tim responded because the town does not have access to the lot and it has not been cut in a long time, he estimated 80 trucks and it would take about a month. He thought the project would be done in August running into September. Ron explained that road meets with the Shaw Town Rd. and has large Winnebago's coming through at a steady stream. Ron stated they spent on wards and upwards of \$100,000 on the road and it has issues. He feels that a professional should look after the Freedoms interest and there is cost involved in that. Other concerns of the board:

- How the road will be impacted.
- How do you measure the impact?
- Who will determine the road is returned to it current state.

During the Spring walk through with Barry Keith, Ron mentioned Madison's request to Barry and he suggested Madison use Pequawket Rd because it's a flat dry road with little erosion and damage. Tim responded he was not familiar with the internal woods roads system on the Freedom side. Ron explained the roads location.

Ernie suggested getting specifics to take back to the Town Forester, Tim then questioned if it was possible if he could get together with Barry to discuss his request. Both Ernie and Ron responded that was their hope all along. Discussion ensued around talking to Freedoms Town Forrester and the condition of the road already being in rough shape, it was also suggested that Tim and Barry and whoever else wanted to from the committee walk the property.

After Josh explained he was there legally to ask the question if Madison can use the road in question and explained his understanding of the statutes regarding Class A municipal trails, Dave explained Jackman Ridge Rd was not a class 6 Rd it was one of Fords roads. Dave went on to express his opinion of the feeling in the room, that if the road was to be used that the road be put back better than it is now. There are water bars and culverts that are failing now, and Ron pointed out the road would have to be closed for regular vehicle access for safety purposes while the logging goes on.

Josh said the Town of Madison would be happy to post any bond that would be required and be sure they would leave the road better than they found it, but he also didn't want to get into a situation where Freedom would come back and say Madison did \$100,000 worth of damage to the road. It was decided after an engaging discussion to include the Road Agent Scott Brooks to have him access the road.

Action:

Tim will contact Barry to see when he is available. Ernie will talk to Scott tomorrow. Tim's schedule is flexible, he will work with Scott and Berry's schedule to walk the property.

Check future meeting minutes for any amendments or changes to these minutes

Ron asked Tim if he could wait till after Labor Day, Tim responded he wants to get it done during the dry period, he didn't want to take a chance with the fall rain getting trapped on the site.

Ron made a motion, seconded by Janet that Tim will contact Barry Keith and Ernie will contact Scott Brooks to coordinate a time when the three principals and the board can meet to walk the property.

Josh and Tim left the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Ron recapped the workday that took place and thanked everyone for their help.

The next meeting will be July 11, 2018.

There being no other business to come before the board **Janet made a motion, seconded by Ernie to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy Bolduc
Recording Secretary