

Forest Advisory Committee

December 5, 2018

Freedom Town Hall

Members Present: Chairman Ron Newbury, Janet Meyers, John Roman(A), Dave Charrette, David Straw FCC Rep., Ernie Day (s)

Members Absent: Jeffery Towle Planning Board Rep, Chuck Depew, Kevin Connerton(A)

Others Present: The Nature Conservancy Rep. Jeffrey Lougee

Quorum: A quorum was met

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

Minutes

A motion was made by John, seconded by Janet to accept the minutes with the following amendments: Chuck Depew should read Chuck Depew, under Others Present add Dave George, under Pedestrian Bridge second paragraph Davie should read Dave,

Miscellaneous Correspondence/Invoices

BH Keith

Invoice # 01-3521

Date 12/4/18

Period Nov. 8th – Dec. 4th

Amt. \$175.00

Description: State easement monitor follow-up, project administration, and review/edit Town Forest Master Plan summary.

BH Keith

Date 11/7/18

Invoice 01-3511

Oct. 17th -Nov. 7th

Amt. \$400.00

Ron reported the monitoring report and the Master Plan are not done yet.

A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Dave S. to approve the above invoices for BH Keith. All were in favor.

Scrub Oak Scramblers

Invoice 2017-2018

Date Dec. 5, 2018

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

Amt. \$40

Description: Mowing

John made a motion to pay the Scrub Oak Scramblers invoice for \$400.00, seconded by Dave S. All were in favor.

Nature Conservancy

John Lougee from The Nature Conservancy came before the committee to discuss applying for a grant to help the cost of doing a controlled burn in the pine barrens. John explained there is an opportunity right now through a forest service program called a fire strategy grant where John could include some work on the Town Forest. He explained the grant would be submitted in collaboration with the state. He went on to explain there are two pieces of planning that need to happen to apply, one being a fire management plan that includes mapping to show what areas are being burned and it would lay out objectives of how the burn would be done safely, the second thing needed is writing a burn unit management plan that outlines if you have several acres how it will be burned safely. He went on to outline the cost involved in writing each plan. To write the fire management plan would be around \$3,000.00 and that would be the Conservancy's cost, the burn unit plan that is a more specific planning document would be around \$500.00. There may be some prep involved which would require a high-pressure mower at the cost of \$500 –\$600 an acre. The burn itself could cost around \$6,000-7,000.00 a burn.

Ernie pointed out that Cubby is a fire warden and Rob Cunio is the fire chief. The timeframe is very short to apply. The application is due December 21st making the timing very tight this year. Ernie explained the FAC is a sub- committee to the FCC. Discussion ensued.

It was decided the timing is to tight this year and the FAC will recommend to the FCC to move forward for next year. David Straw will take the information back to FCC. The goal this year is to get the Fire Management Plan done at the Conservancy's cost. Jeff will send details to Chairman Paul Elie.

Pedestrian Bridge

Dave C. confirmed there is a \$25.00 notification permit is needed the bridge needs to extend beyond the banks. Structural integrity of the bridge still needs to be addressed. Best management practices need to be followed to ensure the bridge is safe.

Scrub Oak Scramblers Winter Carnival Application

Scrub Oak Scramblers Winter Carnival Application for Feb. 16, 2019 was signed.

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

Ron reported he closed the Jackman Ridge Rd. gate due to snow. Ron and a hunter found blood and a couple of deer carcasses. Fish and Game were notified.

There being no other business to come before the board **Janet made a motion, seconded by Ron to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy Bolduc
Recording Secretary

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