

Forest Advisory Committee
May 1, 2013

Members Present: Rob Hatch, Ernie Day Jr., Ron Newbury, Janet Johnson, Chuck Depew, Janet Meyers, Dave Charrette
Minutes recorded by Dianne Park

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes

There was a motion by Janet M., seconded by Ernie, to approve the minutes from April 3, 2013 as written. All were in favor.

Town Forest Update – Review Forest Compartment Map

Copies of the Town Forest Compartment Worksheets were passed out to all. This is a recipe for future forest maintenance. There was a discussion and Rob gave examples of vague references and suggested changes. Members will read through the sheets and this will be put on the agenda for next month to go over in detail.

Review of Bird Count

A bird count was conducted, Saturday, April 27, 2013 and Rob listed what was heard & spotted. This subject will be brought up at the January, 2014 meeting in order to enroll more people for bird counting. The date will also be moved up a couple of weeks (i.e. second or third Saturday in April) in order to not conflict with youth hunting day (last weekend in April).

Miscellaneous Correspondence

Barry has sent in paperwork for the NHDES Grant and applied for the full amount of money available. We should hear about approvals in a couple of weeks.

The log landing for the next cut will be going in soon. The next cut is scheduled for summer/fall 2013.

Ron asked for improved access for fishing at trout pond. Someone asked him about putting in a dock. After weighing the pros and cons of this idea there was a motion by Janet J., seconded by Janet M, stating that no dock will be constructed at trout pond. All were in favor.

Getting the Public Involved in Forest

Rob passed out a tracking survey sheet for town forest kiosks. Janet explained that her and Don are trying to get the school children interested in an after school tracking program. She will put some tracking sheets at all kiosks. Another program being looked into is having older school children research patterns for bird houses to be put on trout pond. Once a pattern is picked, it will be made into a kit, with children building the houses and installing them in trout pond in winter.

Dave commented that ATV trails in the forest are closed during mud season but horses are allowed and creating damage to all trails. Dave suggested closing of trails to horses during mud season. It was explained that this suggestion would have to be approved by the selectmen. There was a motion by Dave, seconded by Janet M., to look into closing the forest to horses during mud season. All were in favor.

Dave stated that mowing and seeding all landings will take place within the next 2 weeks.

There was a motion by Janet M., seconded by Chuck, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.