



TOWN OF PELHAM 6 Village Green Pelham, NH 03076

FORESTRY COMMITTEE

MEETING AGENDA / Meeting notes

September 27, 2021

7pm-9pm

Meeting place: Sherburne Hall 6 Village Green, Pelham, NH 03076

Public meeting

Agenda and Meeting notes for September meeting:

Start time: 7pm - Adjourn time: 8:50pm

Attendance:

Charlie Gale
Mary Hathaway
Bob Lamoureux
Gayle Plouffe
Chris Gallagher
Linda Irish-Simpson
Cole Wilkerson
Ray Brunelle
Nick Spanos

Advisor:

Deb Waters (via remote attendance due to medical issues)

- Open forum in person/ email.

Al Stewart- Looking for support at the Town meeting October 12th 7pm to have the town purchase a conservation easement of 241 acres on the Steck Farm. This will salvage old farmland from being bought up and sold to developers, to hopefully someday down the road to be acquired as forestry and conservation land.

Scott Bowden via trail manager Charlie Gale- Arthur H. Peabody Forest. Lots of ATV damage. It is a big job.

Trail map needs to be updated and correct some errors. Charlie will reach out to NRPC to get that done.

- Site walk with Stephen Carson at the Cutler Spaulding off Skyview update

Steve Carson came in to address the committee and update us of a plan to move forward keeping ATV and Jeeps out of Cutler Spaulding.

Charlie, to write a proposal and present it to the Fire Chief. Looking to have gates with combo locks at the intersection of town Class VI road and the Blue trail. Charlie volunteered to get quotes. Bob and Nick to forward a contact to Charlie. And where the Long trail meets Tower Hill. Charlie is looking for estimates in hopes of having the town/fire/police invest with us and bring more patrolling and enforcement to these parts.

Bob will reach out to the Fire Department and see what their thoughts are about helping and working with forestry.

Steve and his neighbor Charlie came to tell us about excessive shooting. They are concerned citizens and worried about the dangers of fires and perhaps bullets may cause to them, their families and property. Mary will reach out to Fish and Game and see if they can meet with Steve and Charlie to place trail cameras in hopes of finding the perp and putting a stop to this hazard.

Deb volunteered to research Class VI roads in hopes to deem them designated fire lanes, or to at least be able to have gates closed during mud season. Deb will work with the Selectmen during this process as the Selectmen have authority over Class VI roads.

- Little Island Pond is getting some TLC from some awesome citizens. Lorraine and Tom Langan (Linda I-S)

They have not gotten around to this yet. Will report when they do.

- 2022 Forestry Committee budget warrant article update and signatures.

The updated Warrant Article did not require signatures, just a vote on a new amount of money. Originally the warrant was for \$35,000. Last year's warrant article was inadvertently left out leaving us without enough funds to complete planned work, so we voted to increase the Warrant Article to \$56,100.00.

Bob motioned, Charlie 2nd. All in favor. 3/0/0

Chris will follow up with Brian Macarthy to make sure this doesn't slip through the cracks and will confirm receipt.

- Wolven Park treatment of invasive plant species / Do we have the money in the budget?

Chris G-A review of the current budget shows that \$3,000 was in the budget designated for Invasive Species Work so this can be voted on at the September meeting.

There are adequate funds in our budget to treat the invasive species. The Committee voted and approved having this work done. Paul will contact our Town Forester to schedule the work.

Charlie motioned, Mary 2nd. All in favor 3/0/0

- Wolven Park ATV activity (Deb Waters)

Charlie seeded at Wolven Park and other places that need to be seeded. Tim K narrowed entrances and barricaded where the ATVs were coming and going.

- Site walk findings at Wolven from Saturday Sept 11th. What is our plan to keep ATV activity out? (Charlie, Paul and Mary)

Paul and Charlie went back out and dropped brush into the wetlands to deter the ATVs from driving through wetlands. They checked the work Tim did prior, all seems to be holding up and doing the job nicely.

- Lots of trash behind Wolven Parking lot Can we find a member who has a truck and is willing to do "trash duty" (Tim K) has been fixing rock walls and trying to narrow the trails.

When Charlie and the committee get emails about trash Nick and Ray volunteered to come by the parking lots, pick up the already gathered trash and haul it away.

- Moose Pond Water Test, Moose Pond Dam Check, Spring Street Town Forest Drainage Swale - Volunteers Needed do a baseline water test and monitor dam and swale (Deb Waters to speak on this issue)

Charlie has ordered the litmus test and Ray has volunteered to help him and work on testing the water. Charlie will keep us posted.

The swale (storm water treatment structure) on Spring St seems to be dry. Needs to function in alignment with the clean water act. Charlie volunteered to keep his eye on this.

- Costa sign on Dutton Rd needs some elbow grease. (Maybe assign a scout patrol to clean it up)

Job is too big for a scout project. Backing is falling off the sign.

Nick volunteered to take this on. Bob volunteered to donate materials to create a roof over the sign..

- **New-Facebook**

There is a facebook page telling Jeeps that our trails in Pelham are great to ride on. Cole is looking into finding this facebook page in hopes of shutting it down or getting our trails and Hudson's trails off of this list. Cole gave a licence plate number to the police.

October Agenda

- Ed Gleason, Chairman of the Trustees of the Trust Fund, will be joining our October meeting to answer questions about a proposed warrant article to change the way Forestry funds are handled.
- The 2022 warrant article proposal for \$56,100.00 has been received and acknowledged by Brian McCarthy.
- Fish and game helping or not helping with Cutler Spalding update (Mary)
- Peabody ATV damage assessment update and map update (Charlie)
- Moose Pond water testing update(Charlie)
- Fire Department update (Bob)
- Costa sign repair update (Nick)
- Merriam Farm work update (Paul)
- Hike challenge update (Linda)