

TOWN OF PELHAM 6 Village Green Pelham, NH 03076

FORESTRY COMMITTEE

MEETING AGENDA

MEETING NOTES

December 7th, 2022

7pm-9pm

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

Public meeting

Attendance

Gayle Plouffe

Bob Lamoureux

Charlie Gale

Paul Gagnon

Mary Hathaway

Tim Kennedy

Chris Gallagher

Linda Irish Simpson

Nick Spanos

Stefenie Cote

Deb Waters (Forestry Advisor)

Jason C (Forestry Selectman Lesion)

● Open forum-Public-

James Fisher- Complaints about banning electric mountain bikes from Pelham trails. Paul says he made an ordinance to have electric assisted mountain bikes allowed. Not sure if the ordinance will pass because of the law.

Paul is in favor of the ordinance passing.

1. James Fisher- upset that Tim said no to making paths wide enough for motorized bikes.

Tim said after the encounter, Tim went home and thought about it and will see what he can do about making a path for bikes.

2. Also he is upset about boulders blocking the trails.

Paul explained that he and the fire chief drove through every trail and they were able to pass with a side by side, there was only one area that they could not pass.

3. James asked about the permits that were not pulled.

Forestry was never aware that we needed any permits pulled. Our selectman lesion Jason C nor any other selectman or fire chief informed us that we need to pull any permits.

Paul explains that this was an existing trail that we upgraded. This was not a new trail.

Deb Waters explained- Because it is a designated trail, it does not need a permit. It just may have needed a permit by notice.

- Open forum-email (Charlie)

Trail adoptor at Peabody. Large amounts of trash. Someone was camping there for a bit of time, was told to leave, but they left all the trash behind.

Charlie went out and cleaned it all up

- Ordinance to make target practice illegal in the town forests

Update- (Paul)

Paul to request at the selectmen's meeting Tuesday November 1st. Paul will give us an update at our December meeting.

Paul made a presentation to the selectmen- Because of the large fire that destroyed acres of town land, the people were not prosecuted because there is no ordnance .

Paul researched the Holis ordnance-

Very positive response from Parks and rec. And conservation.

The Police Chief told Paul there are some conflicts. Paul will work more with the Police Chief to work through those conflicts and fines.

- Gumpas Pond- Blue trail loop- Needs some work.-Easy to medium-Age Friendly Trail Proposal – Gumpus Blue Trail Loop update (Deb+Tim) Working with the senior center to set up a great place for seniors to enjoy the blue trail.

Water bar system is part of NH DES rain system. Prevents pollution and rain water run off.

The water bar work will be a large project. We will need lots of volunteers and materials for this,

Tim- Build terraces along the trails. Needs gravel for the terraces.

2 bench locations- Hoping to work with the scouts as Eagle projects and dedicate them to vietnam soldiers who have died.

Expansion bridge by the glacial erratic (but leaving the old hand made bridges for viewing)

Deb and Tim- To make itemized equipment and material list and bring it to the board come spring 2023

- Woven – Rare plant –NH Natural Heritage Bureau 3 rare plants identified Update (update) Deb

Deb noticed declining plant species. Mid fall, Deb, Paul and other volunteers cleared out some brush in the areas they found the rare plants so that they can grow and prosper. Deb also harvested some seeds and planted them. We are excited to see the outcome.

- Moonshadow Dr- no blocking gate/parking sign update (Nick)

Task was completed and looks great

- Status of securing the bench at Bench at Moose Pond (Ray)

Ray is absent. He will fill us in December

Ray is absent due to knee surgery. We will wait till spring 2023 for Ray to finish. No rush.

- Warrant article to make Kleczkowski land a town forest update (Paul)

Warrant article has been submitted and has been accepted.

- Timber harvest update (Paul)

Eric, our town forester-Will start Monday December 12 at Spaulding hill.

- Beaver trapping - Update (Charlie)

Derek- finished the fall trapping session mostly on the south part of the pond.

Derek suggests either upgrading or replacing the beaver deceiver
Fencing the trees so the beavers can't get to them(Nick suggests to reach out to the transfer station and local fence companies to see if we can get fencing donated)

Chris Gallagher- Suggests chicken wire fencing

- Trail adopters:(Linda/Charlie) on getting more trail adopters for each area - Update

Linda has sent out emails to encourage more trail adopter involvement.
Linda sent emails out to all the hike challenge finishers. About 12 new trail adopters in various town forests.

This will help keeping up with the trail maintenance and more eyes on the trails.

Tim suggests to have a training session for trail all trail adopters.

This training will help the trail adopters be aware of what to look for and if they are able and willing, Tim will teach them how to properly take care of maintenance items.

- Hike challenge (Linda)

25 people since the hike challenge started.

- OHRV committee progress update (Jason-Bob)

Jason- No meeting since September.

Paul suggested asking fish and game if they would be willing to have one designated area for ATV access. Paul also suggested that the OHRV committee should look into private land. Maybe working out an agreement with landowners that might be willing to allow ATV access. Great ideas that may be worth exploring.

- Vote on October's meeting minutes

Paul motioned to adjourn the meeting

CharlieSecond

All in favor 5-0-0

8:13pm