

Ashley Community Forest Board - Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday 12-12-24, 6:00 p.m.
Morrill Library, Strafford, Vermont

1. Call to Order 6:05
 - a. David, Erik, Kevin, Annie present
2. Public Comments: NONE
3. Report on Public Forest visit 12-7-24
 - a. Report on Forest Tour –25 in attendance
 - b. Three ash hazard trees cut near parking area.**
 - c. Shipped 3 loads of black locust logs, as of today.**
 - d. Expectation is for 12-15,000 board feet of black locust total.**
 - e. Not sure yet about how logs will be scaled.**
 - f. TimberHomes wants straight, 12-ft logs. Sawyer, Jon Williams, will take smaller, shorter logs.**
 - g. Paul Kristensen will buy 7 logs.**
 - h. David McWilliams plans to take a couple bolts of black locust for turning bowls. This is considered part of landing cleanup and the value is incidental.**
 - i. One log is reserved for Mario Sacca to be used for Warren’s bench.**
 - j. No significant ash has been harvested to date.**
 - k. ACF will pay for equipment moving fee, 1 load of crushed stone and rider for additional insurance to meet FEMA requirements.**
4. Approve Minutes from 11-14-24. Table until next meeting.
5. Treasurer’s Report - budget review
 - a. Crushed stone expense will be reflected on the bill
 - b. Nick Howe has reassigned Porta-potty bill
 - c. Timber sale **revenue/costs** will come next quarter and all expenses for the harvest will be itemized on the budget
6. Work plan discussion
 - Gate installed (Spring 2025)
 - Sign plan
 - o A welcome sign at entrance that is 3x4 in size.
 - o Trail names
 - o Kevin has some leads on possible local **sign makers** he will contact.
 - o We agreed to each make a plan for signs that are needed.**
 - Kiosk populated
 - o **AJ Follensbee** will do a map of the land to post
 - o Calendar of events for 2025
 - o Guidelines for the Forest
 - Warren’s bench
 - o Mario has a log picked out.

- **We agreed that since the bench will be well inside the forest, there will be no need to chain it in place.**
- We expect a proposal from memorial bench committee for location.
- Outhouse grant opportunities
 - Recreation grant source mentioned last year: what is it?
 - Mascoma Bank
 - Bryne Foundation
 - USDA Rural Development
 - Kevin has a couple names
- Trail work: set date in April? Review minutes from last month. We set a date.
- Forest stand improvement
 - Clean up after harvest
- AMP resolution (Summer 2025)
- Invasive plant management
 - Sports' teams spring contribution in late summer for their fundraising event (?)
 - Maybe VLS community service spring invasive day
- Boundary blazing/painting
 - Blazing will be done by David and couple of foresters in spring
 - Painting will be done **later by volunteers.**
- Road trip to Tucker Mountain
 - David will ask about weekday first or second week of March for visit
- 2025 Programing: Table to February

7. Other Business: the Clifford Farm Road Access

- a. Approach Deb and ask her how we can support road maintenance
 - i. Class 4 road
- b. We believe it would be fair to help with cost proportionate to our use
 - i. Maybe we care for the pullout for parking?
 - ii. Maintain trail in?
- c. Invite Deb Fisk to a board meeting to discuss.

7:20 Adjourn

Next meeting. 1-9-25, 6:00 p.m. at Sharon Town Office, Sharon, Vermont