

Ashley Community Forest Board - Regular Meeting FINAL Minutes
Thursday 3-13-25, 6:00 p.m.
Sharon Town Office, Sharon, Vermont

1. Call to Order at 6:03
2. Public Comments. No public
3. Approve Minutes from 1-9-25 meeting with correction. Kevin will correct and re-post on town websites. Minutes approved with correction.
4. Annual Review of obligations under the Interlocal Contract.
 - a. Budget sent each December to both town selectboard with report
 - b. At time of proposed budget send the General Ledger of accounts
 - c. Board terms need renewal. Annie will submit her and David names to Strafford Selectboard to be re-appointed.
5. Review Finances and Budget: (Annie).
 - a. Spending authority: Lisa had been directly paying Howe Enterprises for summer months. The change back to Sharon school was not made in fall. ACF paid two extra months. Annie will speak with Nick Howe and correct the record and have him bill Sharon School the two extra months.
6. Discussion of Building a Volunteer Group.
 - a. Annie will compile a list of emails with Michael
 - b. Michael will work on an email
 - c. Plan to send out a monthly email with news, events, and what to see in the forest
7. Update on Forest Management Activity
 - a. Final payment has been made for timber harvest. Expected total less the expenses comes to \$23,008.52. Annie is waiting for a bank statement and will confirm the accounting.
8. Discuss Potential Educational/Fun Programming for 2025.

3/15/25 Moonlight Snowshoe – Michael Sacca—not happening

4/19/25 Tucker Mountain Forest – Tom Kidder.

5/1/25 Volunteer Work Day – Boundary Blazing.

 - Discuss the process of notifying abutters
 - David has drafted a letter/ letter approved

Invasive Plant days: two planned for public & one school group

6/7/25 Post-Harvest Tour – David Paganelli

6/21/25 thereabouts—proposed solstice sing

Other options:

Coverts/ tree ID

9. Program Notice: Vermont Woodlands Association 110th Anniversary Field Day.
 - June 28th at Clover Hill Tree Farm, Strafford.

10. Fund Raising Discussion. Should we send out an annual appeal letter?
 - Share Bradford Conservation Commission experienceA goal to do an appeal in a few years when we have a more established program and additional trails.

11. Work plan for 2025.
 - AMP remediation,
 - Sharon meadow.
 - Invasive plant workdays (2-3).
 - Gate Installation: May 1st at time of field day work
 - No Motorized Vehicle sign,
 - Extend foot path in recent harvest area,
 - Populate kiosk,
 - Outhouse discussion - Michael.
 - o A toilet would require maintenance. Other community forests do not provide services. At this time, seems unnecessary. Maybe we no longer need a porta-potty. Erik will check with the school if this is still necessary.

12. Executive Session – Access Improvement. KG Motion for executive session. AP seconded.
 - a. Session ended 7:40

13. Election of Officers. Chair, Treasurer, Recording Clerk
 - a. Tabled to next meeting

14. Other Business.

7:30 Adjourn

Next meeting. 4-10-25 at the Morrill Library, Strafford, Vermont