

# Gorham Town Forest Committee

Minutes for meeting on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, 5:30 PM at the Gorham Town Hall Conference Room First Floor

1. Call to order: The meeting began at 5:30 pm with Glen Eastman Chair, Lee Carrol, Ted Miller, Steve Malespini, and Mike Waddell present from the Commission and Haven Neil Town Forester
2. Approval of minutes from meeting on 9-29-2014  
**On a motion to approve as presented by Lee Carrol with a Second by Glen Eastman the minutes were unanimously approved.**
3. Forest Harvest Plan for 2014/2015.  
Haven presented a plan to do small “group selection” harvesting in accordance with our existing best practices outlined in the 2006 Forest Plan. This cut would impact 175 acres in the northwest corner of the forest. The existing logging road and three bridges would need to be improved prior to cutting at a cost of approximately \$12,000. The Net income after all expenses and commissions should be between: \$48,000 to \$78,000. The harvest will begin, weather permitting, shortly after Christmas and will conclude when the wood is out or warm weather forces a suspension of work. Concerns regarding snowmobile trails were raised and answered. Haven believes that the cut will not close the road to snowmobiles but that appropriate signage will be necessary. Haven also outlined to the board what the Randolph Town Forest will pay for in the road improvements that occur on their land.  
**Motion to accept the plan as presented was made by Mike Waddell and Seconded by Ted Miller All were in favor.**
4. Old Business  
Mike Waddell informed the Commission that he had spoken with Randolph Town Forest Committee member John Scarinza regarding taxes from Randolph and future land use restrictions. He also informed the Commission the Yankee parcel located on the northeast side of the Forest had been purchased by The Conservation Fund in Shrewsbury, VT. The contact there is Nancy Bell whom he spoke with at length about the possibility of Gorham making a purchase of said parcel. Mike will copy those present with the e-mail that resulted from that conversation.
5. New business.  
The Commission asked Haven to start preparing a new ten year Forest plan. Haven made the Commission aware of possible funding from NRCS for timber stand improvement and what the benefits of this forestry technique could yield. The commission asked Haven to pursue the possibility of funds and to get back to the Commission on what might be possible.
6. Set the next meeting date.  
To be determined as needed.
7. Adjourn  
The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM