

MINUTES OF NEW BOSTON FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
APRIL 12, 2016.

Members in attendance: Tom Miller, Carter Brown, Graham Pendlebury, Kim DiPietro.

Selectmen Rodney Towne and Joe Constance were also present.

Also in attendance were Willard Dodge, Ed DiPietro and Ben St. Amand.

The meeting opened at 6:30 PM. Mr. Towne opened the meeting prior to the election of officers for the year. Carter Brown nominated Tom Miller for Chair which was seconded by J. Constance. He accepted the nomination and he was elected unanimously. Kim DiPietro then nominated Graham Pendlebury for Vice-Chair which was seconded by T. Miller. He accepted the nomination and was elected unanimously. Kim D. then nominated Carter Brown for Treasurer which was seconded by J. Constance. He accepted the nomination and was elected unanimously.

Tom Miller then recognized Ben St. Amand as prospective member of the Committee. He gave a brief summation of his qualifications and will be confirmed as a member at the Selectmen's meeting of April 18, 2016.

R. Towne then opened a discussion of the Selectman's charge to the Committee which had been presented at the Selectmen's meeting of April 4. He emphasized the importance of following the charge closely this year especially as it pertained to following the American Tree Farm Program for New Boston Town Forests.

Kim D. then presented a brief history of the Forestry Committee citing the 1996 Town Warrant article that set aside five (5) parcels of land as Town Forests as well as parameters for the management of funds produced from cuts made on those forests. By virtue of this article all monies earned from cuts goes into the Forestry Committee's account with a cap of \$50,000.00. She also cited pertinent RSA's pertaining to the management of Town Forests. A discussion ensued as to the degree of independence enjoyed by the Committee. R. Towne noted that the Committee was not a Commission and was, in fact, responsible to the Board of Selectmen.

Further discussion ensued as to some of the specific wording of the charge and both R. Towne and J. Constance stated that the Committee is free to discuss the language and suggest appropriate changes to the Board of Selectmen.

Tom Miller then gave a brief overview of what are the primary goals of the Tree Farm Program. He stated that the goal is to grow good, healthy trees which would be suitable for cutting selectively on a regular basis, such as five year intervals. This type of cutting is important for keeping disease levels low and maintaining the proper soil temperature. He stated that it was also important to monitor diseases as part of the program which will necessitate the purchase of various tools.

A discussion then ensued as to the type of tools necessary and where they might be purchased. Carter B. and Ben St. A. offered to produce various catalogs where such tools could be purchased. Carter B. also offered to see if there might be any surplus equipment at his firm that might be suitable for donation to the Committee.

Tom M. then suggested that the Committee consider beginning the program by on the smallest forest lot by 1) researching and documenting the appropriate history of the lot and; 2) performing the appropriate field work.

Graham P. also suggested that the Committee could employ consultants when appropriate. He noted that Meadows Inn had already done some work in town. Ben St. A. also stated that the City of Concord where he is employed has a list of consultants that the Committee could also draw upon.

Kim D. emphasized the importance of collecting the history of Town Forests and stated that she has already done considerable research into this subject and would like to continue doing so. She noted that Marilyn Segien is currently working on Committee files to put them into better order. Tom M. inquired about the types of maps that were available and Kim D. said many were in the files. Various GIS software programs were discussed which might be usable at some future time.

The Committee supported beginning the Tree Farm program on the smallest lot which is still to be determined. It also supported Kim D. continuing to work on the history for this lot as well as the other town forests.

Kim D. then presented some unfinished business which she believed should be finalized as soon as possible. The first of these was the Johnson lot which had a long running boundary issue with an abutter. This issue was referred to Town Counsel at one point and was never concluded. The second involved missing

boundary markers on Day Lily Lane which had been destroyed by a logger. The third pertained to Dane Road where a resident has built a shed on a Town right of way.

Joe C. stated that he would bring all these issues to the Town Administrator the next morning and press for their resolution at the earliest possible date.

Tom M. suggested that everyone look at the American Tree Farm website and, if possible, get a copy of an Introduction to Forest Management in New Hampshire, an older work which is still valid. He also expressed a desire to start field work as soon as possible.

Kim D. made a motion to adjourn at 7:43 PM which was seconded by R. Towne and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Joe Constance  
April 14, 2016