

Town of Washington  
Forestry Committee  
MINUTES: January 14, 2014

**1.0 Assembly:**

- 1.1 Meeting was called to order at Washington Town Hall at 4:00P.M.
- 1.2 Members present: Tom Bert, Larry Gaskell, Steve Hanssen, Al Krygeris, Tom Taylor (Chairman)
- 1.3 Guests: Anita Blakeman, professional Forester  
Pete Martin, proposed Forestry Committee member

**2.0 Minutes:**

- 2.1 Steve H. presented the minutes of the previous meeting held on September 17, 2013. Tom B. moved to accept the minutes as read. Tom T. seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**3.0 Administrative:**

- 3.1 Steve H. introduced Pete M. to the group as a proposed new committee member. It was pointed out that Pete has been helping (without public notice) with Town trail maintenance activities for several years and is an active supporter of other trail construction and public forest organizations in the greater Washington area. Citizens who would like to join the Forestry Committee should contact any current member of the Committee.

**4.0 Old Business:**

- 4.1 Tom T. informed the group that he and Steve H. had recently inspected the dug well on the Old Meadow parcel (Tax Map 12-180). They determined that the existing well cap does not provide adequate protection from random entry and should be upgraded. A more substantial concrete cover was installed during the last week in October, with the help of the Washington Public Works Department.
- 4.2 Tom T. reported that the Forestry Committee had sent a letter (Attachment A), dated 02/16/2014, to Anita Blakeman entitled "Letter Contract for Forest Services". This letter, which was subsequently signed by Ms. Blakeman, sets forth the mutually-agreed-upon scope of services and additionally establishes a Not-To-Exceed (NTE) contract amount of \$3,500.00.  
The terms of the agreement provide for the use of Forestry Committee generated data concerning "metes and bounds", with field observations and analysis by Ms. Blakeman, to accomplish the Forestry committee objective. Collaboration allows for completion of the entire project and best utilizes the expertise of the Forestry Committee contracted resource.
- 4.3 Tom T. directed the group's attention to the draft of the proposed submission of the Forestry Committee's 2013 activities for the 2013/2014 Town Report. This submission was approved and deemed ready for this year's Town Report.
- 4.4 General Discussion regarding Washington Forest Properties:
  - Larry G. made the point that comments regarding expanding trail building and other property improvements efforts inherently increase the maintenance burden on limited Forestry Committee human resources.
  - Tom T. stated that some Conservation Committee members were in favor of pursuing "Conservation Easement" status for all town forestry properties. The objective of this initiative is to secure the ownership plus protect the properties from indiscriminate sale of the land. Larry G. emphasized that disposal of any Town land requires voter approval. This group did not reach any conclusion on the conservation easement subject.
- 4.5 Ms. Blakeman provided an overview of her scope of work as now proposed. She also exchanged her implementation thoughts with the Forestry Committee. The key points were:
  - Allan K's property investigation and resultant data will help significantly in her being able to complete the assigned tasks within budget.

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- The Forestry Committee will prioritize the Town forest properties according to potential revenue generation. These parcels will be where the consultant will focus her study. The three Forestry parcels selected for the study were:
  - (1) Huntley Mountain
  - (2) Back Mountain
  - (3) Farnsworth Hill
- Ms. Blakeman noted that winter weather would not inhibit her conduct of the study.
- Larry G. noted that the Nuthatch property has previously been cut “hard” in anticipation of previously planned contractor development. Ms. Blakeman indicated that the Nuthatch property, which currently has mixed new growth, may be a suitable area for selective new planting and promotion of bird habitat.
- All agreed that there is no pressing time schedule in play. The study can proceed without undue haste.

5.0 **New Business:**

- 5.1 It was agreed that a follow-up meeting would be held during the February 2014 with either the 11<sup>th</sup> or the 18<sup>th</sup> as possible meeting dates.

6.0 **Incoming Correspondence:** None

- 7.0 There being no further business before the Committee, Tom B. motioned adjournment, which Al K. seconded. All voted in favor.

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RECEIVED  
DEC 27 2013

**DATE:** December 16, 2013

**FROM:** Washington Forestry Committee  
Town of Washington  
7 Half Moon Pond RD  
Washington NH 03280

**TO:** Woodland Care Forest Management  
Anita Blakeman, LPF  
PO Box 4, 92 Poor Farm Rd  
North Sutton, NH 03260

**SUBJECT:** Letter Contract for Forest Services

**Attention:** Ms. Blakeman

This letter confirms your work in progress and the exchange of data with the Washington Forestry Committee (WFC) for the forest evaluation and recommendation report currently in progress. The contract in a NTE of \$3,500.00 was approved by Forestry Committee vote on 17 September 2013. The parties to the contract are Woodland Care Forest Management and the Washington Forestry Committee acting for the Selectmen.

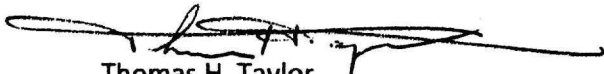
The Forest Committee has engaged Woodland Care Forest Management to help update the Forestry Master Plan through discovery, organizing and planning for the purpose of: identifying timber stands that offer mature economical cutting at this time, recommending long term

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purpose and/or recreational use of each forest parcel, and identifying improvements for wildlife habitat. Inherent in the task is work involving maps and identification of boundaries.


As you proceed with the proposed scope of work which identified tasks that the Committee finds essential to the project objective, we recognize the estimated cost exceeds the availability of Town approved funds for this Forestry Project. Reducing the scope of work will not meet the objectives of the project, therefore; in the interest of accomplishing the entire project, we agreed the Forestry Committee will furnish a large amount of the data in order to reduce part of the time/cost Woodland Care Forest Management would otherwise incur. The Forest Committee has researched most of the deed information and provided GPS data to help identify boundaries based on its field findings. We have noted, many of the deeds for the Town Forests date back to the 1800's and many old markers on these properties were located by the Committee – this being the 1<sup>st</sup> time the boundaries for forest properties have been researched. The Committee has been able to provide GPS points for many old markers.

You are currently evaluating the properties and developing a prioritized list to determine if all forest properties can be included in the update and what properties the WFC should consider timbering this coming year. With this data the parties will develop an itemized task list with a payment schedule.



Thomas H. Taylor  
Washington Forestry Committee, Chair

I agree this letter contract confirms the contract scope Woodland Care Forest Management is proceeding under for a NTE \$ 3,500.00.



Anita Blakeman, LPF  
Woodland Care Forest Management