

## Minutes F.X. Shea Town Forest Meeting August 8,2012

From: Dina DuBois

Place: Corinth Town Hall

Present: Val Stori, Courtney Haynes, Rik Sheridan, Frank Roderick, Penny Andrew, Dina DuBois

Guest: Kevin Eaton

The meeting was called to order at 7:12PM.

Penny reported that Jerry Andrew did brush hog the landing at the forest.

**I. June minutes.** Courtney moved to approve, Rik seconded. SO moved, all in favor.

### **II. Trail head signs discussion**

A. *Metal sign* cut with plasma cutter

Chris Groschner still wants to make the sign and the design for it but not ready yet with that

B. Courtney reported on the *wooden sign* cut and prepared by Dave Savidge. It almost finished. The sign says "welcome to the F.X. Shea Town Forest". Discussion of how to paint the letters and color of the paint followed. Thought white was best color for readability now and when the sign ages. How to mount the sign was talked over: cedar posts? Pressure treated

C. *Sign placement?* Where to put the kiosk (that is also to be built and) where to place the wooden and metal signs?

The Wooden sign would be at the entry trail that goes to "The Landing". The metal sign would be at the end of Wilson Road.

Dina reported on a conversation with Mark Schichtle, the Game Warden, who asked where the trailhead, parking, "jumping off point would be and how marked. He suggested a bulletin Board so that Hunting Seasons (rifle, archery, muzzle loaders etc. be posted)

The "Landing" - the clear space beyond the entry to the forest is to be the parking area. The kiosk/bulletin board would go in The Landing. A sign would be needed to hang( perhaps from a tree) at the entry to the trail to point to the parking area.

### **III. Committee Members**

A. Greg Manning has said he would join the committee. The guest Kevin Eaton would like to join the committee. Lynn Murphy has not yet responded to the request. Dina will continue to try to reach her.

B. Ginny will ask the Selectboard to okay these prospective members.

### **IV. Events.**

A. Upcoming events

1. **Aug.19th** Penny Andrew will lead a *hike and picnic*. The time is 11-1.

2. **Aug.25** *Family Hike* with Val. Start at the Landing and hike the Orange Trail.

B. Past event report. Courtney reported on the Tree ID walk. Around 7 people went. A couple were stung by wasps. There was a range of knowledge and

forest use ideas gained. She had flagged trees to talk about ahead of time. Courtney would like to do a tree ID walk in the winter.

F.A.Q's Courtney realized there were things she didn't know about the forest herself. Wondered about having a flyer about some basic facts. Perhaps an Frequently Asked Question (F.A.Q.) format would be good to have as a poster on the bulleting board, as hand outs, on line??? She will work on some questions.

### C. Possible events.

1. **Bear walk** with Ben Kilham. Ginny spoke with him and he is willing to do one in the fall. The cost would be \$250. Val will call him about the dates of **Oct.6 or 7th or Oct. 13 or 14**. Good to do at fall foliage time. Dina hopes there will be an opportunity to have people share their own bear stories as some people have expressed interest to her in that chance. Rather than have a special date for that, Rik thought it might happen just as people walk around with Ben.

### 2. **Hunter safety/Youth hunting weekend**

Dina talked with the **game Warden, Mark Schichtle**, about hunting regulations and the idea of having a youth weekend in the Town Forest. Mark encouraged close relationship with the abutting land owners.

Youth are required to get written permission for hunting on public land. They are required to carry that written permission with them. He recommended posting the hunting seasons on a bulletin board: turkey, rifle, archery etc. He also suggested marking boundaries cooperatively with the abutting land owners.

Dina also brought up having a youth hunter safety activity in the town Forest to encourage young hunters to become aware of and care about this town forest. **Randy Keating** teaches hunter safety at Waits River Valley School and uses their forest for the field work portion. He generously said he'd be glad volunteer to take students from that class and /or others to the Town Forest to help them practice the skills: 3D archery practice, live fire rifle work. Or possibly make a tree stand and or ground blind, do blood tracking. Dina will follow up to see what he'd like to do as he could then promote the event in his class and at Waits River Valley School. Many students have relatives with forested land, but this would allow other adults as well as youth to learn about the Town Forest. Youth Deer Weekend is Nov.3 and 4th, 2012.

Passport to hike all Corinth trails. Emily Rowe's idea. How to get them stamped. Do like in valley Quest with a vox with the materials in it. Geocache---for winter.

## **V. Next meetings: Sept.19 7:00PM Town Hall and Oct. 17, 7:00PM Town Hall**

### **VI. Reports on Grants**

Val will resubmit **the Story Walk** grant to The **Vermont Humanities Council**. Perhaps there will be a snail maze to walk that goes with a snail story. Maybe permanent of wood that arots over time or semi-permanent.

**Park and Recreation.** Received \$500 for materials for a Kiosk. Shall we look for volunteers? Pay people to build it. Dina asked that the design be sent to us by email so we could then print it and ask around if there might be a team of people who could volunteer to do different tasks of the building. May reach beyond the usual volunteers.

VII. **Vision survey**. Look for the survey in your email to make comments. Time line for finishing. A month? By next meeting.

VIII. **Boy Scout merit badges**. Next meeting.

Voted to adjourn at 8:30 PM