

F.X. Shea Town Forest Committee minutes May 8, 2014

Committee members present: Kevin Eaton, Frank Roderick, Courtney Haynes, Dina DuBois
Meeting called to order at 7:10PM

I. Minutes: Courtney moved to approve the minutes of April 29, 2014. Frank seconded. All in favor.

II. Events

Scouting Outing. May 18 from 10-noon. Ginny and Courtney will meet the scouts at Town Hall to lead them to the forest. They will have the materials for the scouts to use for the Forester(cub Scouts) and Tree(Girl Scout) badges that they will work on.

Trail clearing Scheduled for June 14 1-3PM . We will bring apple cider and chocolate cake Dina will do publicity Posters and LRN. *Pre-Father's Day Forest clearing Frenzy*. Bring post hole diggers. And weed wrenches. Courtney will talk to Tyler about helping with blowdowns on the blue trail.

Past event: Ash Tree awareness walk. Great coverage in Valley News. Courtney will write it up for the website with pictures by Kevin.

III. Trail Marking:

1. Maps: Mark distances between posts, mark harder/steep portion with dotted lines. Posts will have numbers. Numbers will be on the map.
2. Signage: trail names will be the colors on the map. Posts will have those colors. Discussion about what trails loop and signage for that. Frank has brought posts to the site.
3. Boundary walk. Courtney, Kevin and Frank will coordinate when to do a morning boundary walk week of May 26.
4. Parking. Frank has cut brush along the road to provide plenty of parking. And flagged it. Dina will make parking signs.

IV. Forest Management Plan. Courtney presented a revised, simplified format for the plan. The language and paragraph style makes it more accessible. Low impact *camping* was discussed and decided that that was desirable. Carry in and carry out. No fires permitted. At an approved community event there could be a fire in a designated fire pit area. Kiosk sign would describe minimum impact camping. Items in the draft that were cut out due to need for more volunteers were wildflower garden maintenance and joint trail map with CCC. Discussion of *logging/ skidding* activity. Not in recreation area. Hazard tree removal only along identified trails.. The closing of trails was discussed as not necessary except perhaps in mud season. Some motorized vehicle could be accommodated for special needs and with permission. **Any motor vehicle** use for brush, tree removal would be in the dry season; reviewed by the committee on a case by case basis for forest management activities.

V. Next meeting. June 11th 7:00PM Town Hall.

Agenda: More on management plan. More on the maps. Debrief Scouting event and trail clearing. Approve minutes for April 29, 2014. Courtney moves to adjourn at 9:15PM Dina seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Dina DuBois