

**Fayston Natural Resource Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Second meeting: July 30th, 2007**



**Members present:**

Ky Koitzsch, Chair, and Patti Greene-Swift. Members absent: Jane Lazorchak, Ned Kelly, Mary O'Leary, Stellan Wollmar, and Peter Forbes.

**Ancient Roads**

Ky and Patti began the meeting by discussing the work that Patti Lewis had completed thus far on ancient roads, as well as the process that she had used for fact finding. Patti had given the members of the FNRC her notebook of tasks, and a sheet with an explanation of her actions thus far along with copies of some of the maps she had used to begin the ancient roads research.

Ky and Patti studied the maps included with Patti Lewis' notebook and compared the areas where ancient roads may be located to the 2006 (now one year old) tax maps to get a general idea of which property owners may have an ancient road on their property. Thus, initial landowner research has begun.

Access to potential ancient road sites was discussed and possible access points were identified for Phen Basin, Tucker Hill, and Duxbury (near the old talc mine). Members agreed that it would be very helpful to the FNRC to have all the maps that Patti Lewis has already ordered and received for further fact finding.

Ky and Patti went over the hand-out Patti created to educate members on road classification and discussed the implications of the state laws (VSA) & how those laws will most likely affect the town. Fortunately, changing a class 3 or 4 highway's designation from a road to a trail will not create any liability issues for the town (see the handout for specific language).

Ky and Patti worked on the list of suggested roads, and the following comments pertain to roads 1 – 16.

1. No information thus far
2. Used as a trail
3. Unknown
4. Unknown
5. Unknown
6. Unknown

7. Possibly used for mountain biking
8. Baird in the Bush trail
9. May be used—look into further
10. Possible bike trail into Warren
11. May be used—look into further
12. Unknown
13. Possible town trail in Irasville district
14. May be a driveway.
15. Old Talc Mine Road
16. Possibly used as access into Camel's Hump State Forest

**Ongoing Work List for Ancient Roads (\* = in process or completed)**

1. \*Education about the ancient roads legislation for the FNRC members. Mary will do a write-up and Patti will find legal definitions for different classes of town roads, and identify what the process encompasses for downgrading roads to trails.
2. \*(Create maps for the FNRC to work with as a group.
3. \*Identify ancient roads not thrown up, and of interest, that came from research already accomplished by Patti Lewis.
4. Gather landowner information.
5. Present to Select Board our findings, thoughts, recommendations, and come to an agreement on future actions.
6. Create public presentation, contact landowners via letter/phone and invite them as well as the public, by newspaper & web to a meeting to discuss the who, what, when, where, and why of the ancient roads project. Work with public to get consensus on which roads to keep & which to potentially throw up.
7. Public meeting for ancient roads.
8. Create from public meeting suggestions for the Select Board.
9. Present to Select Board

**Chase Brook/Town Forest parcel:**

Those present at the meeting have walked the new bridge and access trail to the Chase Brook parcel. Patti noted that the trail was too close to the seep wetland, and the stream that empties into Chase Brook. Both Ky and Patti questioned the placement of the trail as it is steep and has at least three switchbacks—another site with a long, lower grade slope would have been a friendlier alternative for children, people on mountain bikes, and older citizens.

**Other town commissions:**

Margo Wade has been asked by Patti if the Warren Conservation Commission would be amenable to having some or all of the Fayston NRC attend one Warren's meetings or have a representative from the Warren board come to visit the FNRC. Margo responded favorably to having FNRC members visit or having a Warren member visit the FNRC.

**Publicity:**

Ky has checked with Ed Reed and Patti Lewis regarding the FNRC posting its minutes and activities on the Fayston website. Both agree that having the FNRC on the web is a good idea.

Ky also discussed with Ed the press release that Jane is writing for the V.R. and Ed has agreed to read the letter/press release before it is sent out to be published. Ed's email is [reedsweeds@madriver.com](mailto:reedsweeds@madriver.com).

**Homework for members:**

Become familiar with ancient road sites around town, continue ancient roads work.

Chase Brook plan & visit Chase Brook Parcel (all)

Contact MRVPD (Mary)

Follow up on binders for group members (Patti)

Ky will send out the next agenda

Press release (Jane)

**Minutes:**

Changes were made to the minutes (and preliminarily approved)

**Next Meetings:**

7:00 p.m. August 13, 2007

7:00 p.m. August 27, 2007

**Agenda for 7:00 August 13th, 2007:**

Look for a copy forwarded via email.

**Thank you:**

Ned, for the map work

Patti GS for the highway info & minutes

Patti Lewis for ancient roads notes.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.**

Respectfully,

Patti Greene-Swift, FNRC Secretary