

## Fayston Natural Resource Committee Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2009

### Members present

Patti, Jane, Cory, and Ky were present.

### June Minutes, 2009:

the June minutes need to be amended to change start time of our tri-town meeting on 9/17. Determined that those interested in tour of Knoll Farm should be there at 6pm, and the meeting would officially start at 7pm

Ky made a motion to accept minutes as amended. Cory moved and Patti seconded. All were in favor.

**ACTION ITEMS: Cory will make amendments to June minutes.**

### Three Town Conservation Commission meeting

The tri-town meeting is Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at Knoll Farm. It will start at 6:00 for those who want a tour of Knoll Farm's Renewable energy program and 7:00pm for the meeting.

We discussed allowing an hour for a presentation made by the Forest, Wildlife and Communities Project (FWCP) and Fish and Wildlife to spark interest and sign-up for delivering "welcome wagon" packets for new landowners in the Valley. the MRV has been chosen as a pilot area for these kits, which introduce landowners to the various opportunities surrounding the management of their property. The presentation would make the three CC's familiar with the kits, and hopefully generate some sign-up of people who would be willing to deliver the kits to the new landowners they might know. People who signed up would then get together at a separate meeting for training.

+Jens and Jamey would spend 15 minutes on FWCP, and then Fish and Wildlife would have 45 min. to share kits.

+One question was how to add landowners to the current list which is comprised of new owners, size, and location meshed with arrowood data. Need to add in the local knowledge piece as a filter

We decided to start meeting with Round-robin/updates from each Conservation Commission, then move to the Presentation and follow-up with AOB.

+talked about having everyone introduce themselves, but only one representative from each commission do the update to save time

Try to get everyone's names from three towns listed on agenda.

**ACTION ITEMS: Jane will draft he agenda, send it out and run the meeting**

**FWCP Update:**

The last FWCP meeting the bulk of the time was spent talking about landowner welcome wagon kits as a non-regulatory, non-technical way to do some good outreach. The draft kit was there for review at last meeting, worked on tailoring it to the MRV by adding some good local publications from Friends of the Mad River, etc.

Jamey Fidel has applied for another grant to keel the steering committee going and to fund a website that Josh will put together for the arrowwood data. Also includes technical assistance for outreach--brainstorm of a TV show focusing on local landowners participating in many of programs available (i.e. Ned), that would air on our local channel.

8/18 meeting scheduled for all Fayston boards to get together to hear presentation by Jens and Jamey. It is during the regular Planning Commission meeting. A good way to start up conversations with PC and DRB, how we can be more helpful in their work.

**Action Items: Patti will specifically invite DRB and Select board members.**

**Farmer's Market Update:**

The posters are laminated and ready, 44x36". Jane has a card table with handouts and sign-up sheet for those interested in more information or getting involved (Josh and Jamey are contacts on handouts.) All of these supplies will be at Gen. Wait house for pick-up and drop-off each market.

The online calendar is out and ready for sign-ups. The bulk of the time will be in September.

Can we find a tent for rain? Friends of Mad River have a tent on loan from Ky, perhaps we can share.

**Action Items: Everyone should access the calendar and sign-up for a day at the market if they can.**

**Ky will build holders for posters**

## Chase Brook Town Forest

### **Boundary Markers:**

Mink did not turn out very well, company suggested we make it all black and we agreed. Will wait for leaf drop to put up the markers.

Margo Wade was interested in learning about our markers as the Warren CC is deciding how to mark their Eaton Town Forest.

### **School Opportunities:**

Cory is working on a proposal for interpretive signage and trail mapping with the school. This is designed to be a collaborative effort with teachers and students, and could potentially result in trail maps, a kiosk and interpretive signs. The goal is to create a place-specific curriculum for the school to use Chase Brook as an outdoor classroom year after year.

+A few other existing curricula were mentioned--Project Seasons from Shelburne Farms, Project Wild and Project Wet from PLT, and one from Vermont Fish and Wildlife.

The school will also be making a new mascot choice this year which could fit into our proposed project very well.

Overall enthusiasm for continued work with students who already seem to have a great deal of knowledge of forest ecology.

### **Management Plan**

Return to the management plan for our Sept. meeting anyone who wants to try and line up a speaker is encouraged to do so.

**ACTION ITEMS: Everyone--hang boundary markers after leaf drop.  
organize speaker to come to Sept. meeting if possible. Ky will email  
boundary marker info to Margo.**

### Next Meetings:

Our next meeting is September 14th

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully,

Cory Stephenson, FNRC Member