

# FNRC Minutes of December 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 2008

Date Distributed 12/17/08

## Members Present:

Ky Koitzsch, Jane Lazorchak, Mary O'Leary, Stellan Wollmar, and Cory Stephenson

## Members Absent:

Ned Kelley, Peter Forbes, Patti Green-Swift.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the October 1, 2008 and November 10, 2008 meetings were approved following an amendment to the November 10 minutes where we changed the minute taking schedule. New schedule (Ky – Dec. 08 and Feb. 09, Mary – March to May 09, and Jane – June to August 09).

## Discussion Topics:

1. **Minutes Format :** Our first topic of discussion was to agree on a minute format that will be followed by all committee members. We chose to modify the format Patti GS has been using for the last two meetings. The format as shown on these minutes includes the following: Title with date of meeting, Date Minutes Distributed, Members Present, Members Absent, Minutes, Discussion Topics, Action Items, and Next Meeting Date. Whoever is taking the minutes can copy the last months minutes and modify them. Let's further discuss the minute format at our next meeting.

## 2. Chase Brook Town Forest:

A. Chase Brook Parcel boundary markers: We looked at sample markers provided by Voss Signs and agreed that the 4x4 diamond is the shape. Markers will be yellow with dark green lettering and a black mink. Our first choice of materials is recycled plastic and our second is of recycled aluminum. We agreed that with either we would prefer the lighter of the two thicknesses.

B. FNRC 09 Budget: We submitted a request of \$1,000 for our 09 budget which will go towards boundary signs, lunch for the signage crew of course, additional signage, and for field trips presenters to the Selectboard They are adding it to the 2009 Budget for approval at Town Meeting 09.

C. Mink Monitoring and Educational Opportunities: We discussed how to organize a mink monitoring program. Cory is meeting with Doug Bernstein and Carla Lewis before our next meeting to see what they had in mind for the school kids and what they already may be doing. We also discussed programs such as A.V.I.O. and Keeping Track who work with local groups and instruct them on how to collect data for research projects. Cory will be working with Sean Lawson this winter at Mad River and will pick his brain to get some more ideas for us. We also talked about contacting Kinney Connell and Kim Royer. Kinney has worked with Keeping Track in the past and may have some data sheets we could use. Kim may have some specifics on how to get a monitoring program started. I had a long conversation with Kim on this topic and together we came up with some good ideas. She is sending some data sheets as well. I will present this information at our next meeting.

D. Homework for this meeting was to review the existing Chase Brook Management Plan and comment on how it should be modified to better serve the goals of the community. Stellan discussed having 2 documents. One would be a technical document that discussed the nuts and bolts of the management plan and details the silvicultural prescriptions for woodland management. A second would be more of an educational pamphlet or users guide that describes the history of the parcel and recreational opportunities. This second document can be distributed at Town Meetings, the town hall and at the future Chase Brook kiosk. Stellan provided some specifics that we can discuss further in our next meeting. Cory noted that the plan needs a much broader educational component. Jane noted that we need to create an overall vision for the parcel ("We need a vision statement") and that the organization of the plan needs some work. She will make a first stab at reworking the table of contents. Ky noted that we need to add "Management recommendations for enhancing and improving mink habitat" and "Management recommendations for improving riparian habitat for wildlife". Ned provided us with some specifics that we will review at our next meeting.

3. **Three Town Conservation Commission/Committee meeting:** Jane has contacted Josh from the Planning District who will facilitate this meeting of the Warren, Waitsfield and Fayston Committees. It was agreed that we need to set a date for the meeting but before doing so we should create and agree on an agenda for the meeting with input from all three committees. We thought one of the most important agenda items would be to review the Arrowhead data and determine how we can combine it between towns and move forward with using it. Also, how do we get this information out to the public.

**Action Items:**

**Ky** – Inquire about recycled boundary sign materials, talk to Town of Fayston about their schedule for fixing culverts on Chase, Lockwood and Slide Brooks, present information discussed with Kim Royer on creating a mink monitoring plan.

**Stellan** – Rework sign design to fit the 4x4 diamond and get to Jane.

**Jane** – Create the final digital artwork from Stellan's design, circulate links to the Hinesburg Town Forest Management Guide and whatever others you think will be helpful to the rest of us. Follow-up with Josh on Three Town meeting.

**Cory** – Look into educational opportunities for the Fayston school kids, research how to get public/students involved with a mink monitoring program.

**Mary** – Look into the Newis? Land and see if it is still available after the tax sale. It would be a great parcel to add to the town lands?

**Patti GS** – Update us with research, findings and or classification work of wetlands.

**All** – We need to set the next field trip date, review minutes format.

**Next Meeting Date:**

Monday, January 12, 2009 at the Fayston Town Office Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ky Koitzsch