

**FAYSTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DECEMBER 3, 2019
MEETING MINUTES**

Attendees: Lisa Koitzsch, Corrie Miller, Geri Procaccini, Gene Fialkoff, Akhil Kaplan, Ned Kelley.

ACTION ITEMS BEFORE NEXT MEETING

1. **Everyone:** Review the Chase Brook Town Forest Plan, which Lisa has emailed, and share comments and suggestions at the next FCC meeting
2. **Everyone:** Review the press release re: Boyce Hill when Lisa gets it from VLT
3. **Lisa:** Order signage for Boyce Hill Town Forest from Wood and Wood
4. **Ned:** Confirm a possible donation of signposts and help Lisa install posts this weekend
5. **Lisa:** Draft FCC report for the Town Report
6. **Corrie and Lisa:** Meet with Dan Singleton, Washington County Forester – Date TBD
7. **Geri and Akhil:** Work on Compost Survey and then send out to FCC member for feedback.
8. **Akhil and Geri:** Draft thank you letter to the Big Basin Trust.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Geri moved to approve the minutes from the November 5th meeting. Corrie seconded, all approved.

BOYCE PROPERTY UPDATE

Liza Walker of the Vermont Land Trust is working on a press release that will be submitted to the Valley Reporter about the transfer of land from Ermione LLC to the Town of Fayston. This likely will occur on 12/10/19.

Corrie and Lisa will meet Dan Singleton, Washington County Forester, to walk the Boyce property, date and time TBA.

Parking issues need to be addressed with regards to the Town plow turn-around and neighbors' access to their properties. Lisa will confirm with Stuart regarding Town plowing requirements.

Signage: Lisa distributed handouts with sign information: signs are to be placed at the entrance, plow turn-around, 3-4 at property boundaries, and at the pond. Wording for the signs was included. Akhil suggested including dates for use of the pond as it will be restricted in winter.

Signage may change once the permanent management plan is in place.

All discussed next steps for the property as we begin longer term management process.

Year 1 – Gather information, educate public, natural resources inventory, etc.

Year 2 - Management planning and public meetings.

MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

Lisa made a motion to donate to the Master Naturalist Program any funds remaining in the FCC budget account after Boyce Road sign costs are allocated. Ned seconded, all approved.

FAYSTON COMPOST PROJECT

Geri presented a draft of a short survey to Fayston residents regarding the new composting regulations taking effect in 2020, to be posted in FPF. Geri and Akhil will refine the draft and circulate it to the rest of the Commission.

FCC BUDGET REQUEST

Corrie and Lisa presented FCC budget requests to the Select Board. Amounts requested:

\$1,000.00 – General FCC budget

\$5,000.00 – Fayston Conservation Reserve Fund

\$7,500.00 - Town Forest/Boyce Hill Town Forest Maintenance and Management Fund.

Anticipate between \$10,000 - \$20,000 over the next two years for long term management plan, natural resources inventory, and public meeting process.

Corrie cited a Trust for Public Land study which found that every dollar invested in conservation yields \$9.00 in economic benefit to the community.

OTHER BUSINESS

Akhil mentioned that we still need to complete the dog-friendly loop trail in Chase Brook Town Forest. Ned has signs left over from previous trail constructions that can be used for postings.

Big Basin Trust donated \$1,000.00 to the Fayston Conservation Reserve Fund. Akhil and Geri will draft a thank-you letter to the trust.

The next FCC meeting will be held at the Fayston Town Hall on Tuesday, 1/7/20, at 6PM.