

Fayston Natural Resources Committee

December 10, 2012

Minutes

Present: Ky Koitzsch, Lisa Koitzsch, Stan Button, Gene Fialkoff, Ned Kelley
Guest: Liza Walker, Vermont Land Trust
Select Board: Ed Read, Bob Vasseur, Jared Cadwell

ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Lisa: Post info re: FNRC to Front Porch Forum to solicit new members
Draft notice for paper re: public forum on Tuesday, January 8th.
Stan: Develop calendar for McCullough barn
Ky: Draft town meeting language for conservation reserve fund
Thank you note to Big Basin Trust
Gene & Cory: Continue representing FNRC on elementary school landscape visioning project
All: Help strategize and organize public forum

1. Minutes

Minutes were approved from the November 2012 meeting. Gene made the motion to approve and Stan seconded.

2. McCullough Barn Update

Stan, Gene and Ned met last month to finish the cleanup of the barn. A big thank you to them!! Now we need to think about getting doors and windows installed...

Gene reported on the Fayston Elementary School landscape visioning project. He and Cory have been attending the meetings. There are 6-7 study groups that have been formed to discuss elements of the plan such as a new playground, land purchase adjacent to the school, agricultural aspects, traffic reconfiguration, etc. FNRC is most interested in working with the school on tying in the Barn and the Chase Brook Town Forest to this endeavor.

3. Bragg Farm

Liza of VLT met with FNRC and the Select Board to update them on the current fundraising efforts for the Bragg Farm. With the selection of Marisa Mauro as the new farmer, the Land Trust now has to raise almost \$200,000 from donations to help complete the deal. Liza thanked the FNRC for agreeing to donate the \$10,000 in the Fayston Conservation Reserve Fund towards this fundraising goal. In order for this to take place, however, a public forum has to be held so that the FNRC can present this project to the general public. This will take place on January 8th and Liza has agreed to attend. Liza also asked the Select Board to consider an additional donation of \$10,000 towards the conservation of the Bragg Farm.

4. Select Board and Conservation Reserve Funding

Ky reiterated the FNRC's support of the conservation of the Bragg Farm and asked the Select Board to consider additional funding (\$20,000) to the town's conservation reserve fund in 2013. Ed Read suggested that FNRC include an article at Town Meeting asking for the funding and use the opportunity to rally support for the Bragg Farm Conservation project. He also stated that the Select Board, with the approval of Fayston residents, would consider making the funding of the reserve fund a line item in the Town Budget beginning in 2014.

Patti Lewis let FNRC know that the Big Basin Trust had donated \$1,000 towards the Conservation Reserve Fund. THANK YOU!

5. Next FNRC meeting will be a public forum held on Tuesday, January 8th in the Fayston Town Office building.