

Rines Forest Advisory Committee Minutes

**Monday, December 4, 2006
7:00 PM East Conference Room**

Present: Bob Heyner, Lisa Judd, Henry Milburn, Bob Waterhouse, Sally Stockwell, Jennifer West, Tom Hinman, Steve Moriarty and Bill Shane.

Absent: John Stroud, Bill Richards, Jeff Steinman and Jeff Porter.

Call to Order at 7:00 pm.

I. September 18, 2006 - Meeting Minutes Review & Acceptance

Bob Heyner made a motion to accept the September 18, 2006 minutes. Henry Milburn seconded the motion.

VOTE: 3 in favor, 1 abstained. Motion Passed.

II. Management Plan – items to be completed

- a. Executive Summary
- b. Forest Management Plan
- c. Habitat Plan

The committee reviewed the Management Plan. Steve Moriarty noted a few corrections. Bill Shane would draft the Executive Summary. The committee discussed whether the plan could be presented to the Council in its present form. The committee agreed that the Forest Management Plan should be a separate document in itself. This would be indicated in a summary under the Forest Management Plan section. The committee felt that a Habitat Plan would be included in the Forest Management Plan so this section could be eliminated from the Management Plan.

III. Forest Management Plan Discussion

- a. Easement Deed reference to forest management plan development
- b. Timber Article
- c. Woodlot Alternatives information
- d. Hancock Land information

The committee discussed whether they should consider talking to a forester now about a Forest Management Plan and whether they should begin by taking an inventory of the forest itself. Sally Stockwell pointed out the different views of a forester vs. a logger. The committee decided they needed to select a forester first. The next step would be to take an inventory and develop a plan. There was further discussion whether an inventory needed to be taken now. Several members felt that they should not wait too long to take the inventory. The committee had information from two

companies already and Sally Stockwell said she would provide two other names to interview. Bill Shane suggested that 5 or 6 committee members would be needed to conduct the interviews. He felt that the interviews should be divided between two nights during the same week so that the information gathered was fresh in their minds and a knowledgeable decision can be made.

Bill Shane recommended that 5-9 standard questions be developed for the interviews. It was suggested that joint services for other town owned properties be explored and there was a question whether services could be offered to private land owners.

IV. Other Business & Future Meetings

Sally Stockwell talked about the Rines Forest walking tours held this fall. She mentioned that some of the walkers missed a turn and ended up coming out on Range Road near Dale Rines' entrance. So she felt the markings should be made clearer. She also had feedback from some hunters who ran into people in the forest who did not have orange on. The committee felt that more signs should be erected to make people aware of safety precautions during various hunting seasons. Henry Milburn volunteered to put a temporary map box up at the entrance.

Bob Heyner complimented the Town Manager for the support given to the Rines Committee and other town boards and committees and thanked him for his commitment.

Future Meetings:

- a. January 23 & 25, 2007 starting times 6:30 p.m. – Interview Forest Management Consultants**
- b. February 5, 2007 – Finalize Management Plan for presentation to Council in March.
Trail Marking – determine markings and create a legend.**

V. Adjournment

The committee unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Stroud
Recording Secretary