



R I N E S F O R E S T  
A D V I S O R Y  
C O M M I T T E E

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, April 17, 2008**  
**7:00 PM – Town Council Chambers**

Present: Warren Graumann, Henry Milburn, Bill Shane, Richard Sweetser, Robert Waterhouse, Bruce Wildes, Sally Stockwell and Jeff Porter.

Excused: Bob Heyner, Jennifer West and Steve Moriarty.

Absent: Tom Hinman and Lisa Judd

Bob Waterhouse called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**I. Review and approval of February 21, 2008 meeting minutes.**

Henry Milburn made a motion to approve the February 21, 2008 meeting minutes as presented.

Warren Graumann seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous Passage 5-0

**II. Discussion and input on questions presented by Jay Braunscheidel.**

The Committee members addressed each of the ten questions provided by Jay Braunscheidel aimed at determining how the Rines Forest should be managed.

Sally Stockwell arrived at 7:04 p.m.

*#1 – Should the management of the Rines Forest be certified?*

Jay Braunscheidel's notes indicated that there is an upfront cost as well as an annual fee associated with being certified. He estimated that the annual cost would be in the \$100/year range.

The Committee members felt that the Forest should be certified.

*#2 – Should we consider a Focus Species approach to wildlife habitat management and biodiversity?*

Sally Stockwell provided some information regarding Focus Species and the Committee discussed what types of trees you would want to have to attract certain types of wildlife.

Manager Shane asked what the forest would be classified as now. Sally Stockwell said that currently the forest has red pine and that right now there is not a lot of wildlife in the forest. If the red pine is harvested then species like white pine, beech and maple would fill in.

The Committee members agreed that this approach should be considered.

*#3 – Should there be any trees harvested in the Rines Forest for any reason?*

The Committee said yes to this question without much discussion.

*#4 – If yes to question #3 what are the Committee's preference around entry timing and intensity*

*#5 – Should we incorporate a transition of the red plantation to natural stands? If yes, at what rate?*

The Committee discussed #4&5 together.

Sally Stockwell described how much red pine was actually contained in the forest.

Jeff Porter arrived at 7:20 p.m.

The Committee discussed how and where harvesting would be decided.

Warren Grauman thought that it seemed like the harvesting would be done in sections and would be a long term process.

The Committee agreed that the red pine portion should be addressed so the answer to #5 is yes.

Jeff Porter asked if the Town will have any formal rights to access the red pine portion through Dale Rines' access road. Having this type of access would be beneficial for two reasons; one would be to reduce the impact to the forest and from an economic standpoint for the Town. Manager Shane said there has only been informal discussion up to now.

The Committee discussed the timing and intensity of harvesting including how the public would react to the harvesting and the practices of the harvester in harvesting. For example, whether a harvester is willing to cut a small section at a time.

Robert Waterhouse thought that Jay Braunscheidel would have opinions on the timing and intensity of harvesting.

The Committee agreed to wait on answering #4 until more discussion could be held with Jay Braunscheidel on this subject.

*#6 – Is the Committee prepared to consider the full range of control measure available to manage invasive species currently present in the forest, including herbicide?*

Buckthorn is an invasive species that had been identified in the forest. At the last meeting Bruce Wildes had reported that pesticide use would not violate the easement with the Chebeague Cumberland Land Trust (CCLT).

The Committee agreed to answer yes to #6 as long as extreme caution was used.

*#7 – Is the Committee interested in considering uneven aged management?*

Sally Stockwell explained how to convert an even aged stand, such as the red pine plantation, to an uneven aged stand

pointing out that this takes time.

There was discussion regarding whether anything needs to be done because over time the forest will become uneven naturally.

The Committee agreed to consider uneven aged management.

#### *#8 – Conservation vs. Preservation*

The Committee agreed to get more input from Jay on this question.

#### *#9 – How does the Committee wish to consider the specialness of riparian zones within the forest?*

Sally Stockwell explained what riparian zones entail. Foresters have their own set of management guidelines in these zones. Sally provided a handout pertaining to how different wildlife species utilize riparian zones. This information is helpful in deciding whether to do anything in these areas of the forest.

There was discussion about identifying these areas in the forest and that there are portions of this type of area that are bisected by property lines. The Committee talked about communicating with abutters regarding these areas and the possibility for easements with CCLT.

Manager Shane will put together a map depicting what the various size buffers look like for the next meeting.

There was discussion on including a statement about low impact harvesting.

The Committee agreed that it would include this type of statement.

#### *#10 – Timing*

The Committee wanted to see a rough draft at the May 15, 2008 meeting and the final product in June.

Jeff Porter said he would want to know if Jay Braunscheidel disagreed with anything the Committee has decided on at this meeting ahead of time.

Nancy Stroud will send the answers to the questions out to the committee for review then they will be sent to Jay for the development of the draft.

Robert Waterhouse brought up parking and asked how the Committee felt about a wider shoulder for parking near the entrance to be incorporated during reconstruction of Range Road?

This will be an agenda item for next meeting.

Waren Graumann asked about making parking spaces where a car would pull in perpendicularly as opposed to parallel spaces.

The Committee agreed to consider providing parking spaces incorporated into the shoulder of Range Road near the Rines Forest Entrance.

### **III. Update on trail markings.**

The trail markings have been created and installed by Chris Logan and Ted Bosarge of the Parks Department. The Committee members thought they looked great.

### **IV. Other Business**

- a) Next meeting date Thursday, May 15th

Bruce Wildes provided an update from the Chebeague Cumberland Land Trust reporting that they do not have a management plan for the forest easement yet. They need to document what it looks like today and in order to do this they need to walk the boundary line. Manager Shane will provide a map of the boundary line. Mr. Wildes also wants to get together with the abutters to educate them about the easement. Manager Shane asked if the Parks Forman could be involved. He felt it would be a good exercise and experience for him. Mr. Wildes said the Committee would need to talk some more regarding the item introduced in February about putting down some planking on a certain trail to prevent widening of the trail.

Sally Stockwell offered to go out with the group from CCLT to help guide them when they go and thought that Roger Milliken could talk to the group about the wet areas.

### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy Stroud  
Recording Secretary