



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, December 18, 2008**  
**7:00 PM – Town Hall East Conference Room**

Present: Warren Graumann, Robert Waterhouse, Bruce Wildes, Jay Braunscheidel of Intergrated Forest Management, Inc., Sally Stockwell and Town Manager Bill Shane.

Excused: Henry Milburn, Richard Sweetser, Bob Heyner, Jennifer West, Lisa Judd, Steve Moriarty and Jeff Porter

I. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

II. Approval of November 18, 2008 meeting minutes

The meeting minutes from November 18, 2008 were approved by unanimous consent.

III. Continuation of review of Forest Management Plan – Jay Braunscheidel

Committee members received a formal management plan document for their review. The document consists of objectives, stand descriptions and recommendations, maps and appendices. One item that is not included in the document is the output of the inventory “cruise” or survey but this information is available if needed.

Mr. Braunscheidel asked if the format of the document was acceptable.

Bob Waterhouse asked if the short term goals listed on page 2 were the committee’s goals or Mr. Braunscheidel’s goals. Mr. Braunscheidel said the short term goals are taken from the committee’s recommendations along with his own goals for the management of the property. Mr. Waterhouse asked that language be added to clarify whose goals are being listed, i.e. the Town of Cumberland vs. Landowner, as suggested by Sally Stockwell. The committee members discussed other phrasing that would clarify the goals and objectives section of the plan.

Bruce Wildes arrived at 7:30 p.m. and was brought up to date on the discussion so far.

Sally Stockwell asked about the wording in the objectives section regarding successional habitat and made suggestions for the wording of this statement. She felt that creating early successional habit should not be a major focus. Ms. Stockwell suggested that Mr. Braunscheidel replace “while adding balance by creating some early successional habitat” with “including some forest openings”. After further discussion a compromise was reached where the description of small forest opening would be incorporated into this statement and a related statement in the short term goals section.

The objective relating to revenue was edited to reflect that management activities should be at least revenue neutral over time. There was discussion that surplus revenues be retained or designated for the Rines Forest use. A suggested phrasing was: Forest Management activities should be revenue neutral overtime or in the long term. Discussion continued relating to the overall cost to maintain the forest as a recreational facility versus the specific physical forest management maintenance.

A heading would be added to page three to introduce the stand descriptions that follow.

Sally Stockwell noted that the ranges were not included on some of the tables.

Bob Waterhouse asked that appendix 7 be referenced on page 4 and in the summary the corresponding appendices or definitions be noted for easier reference.

There was discussion of expanding the reserve area on the map included in the document including where there are other areas that foster similar vegetation and animal species. Conversation centered on what was considered when defining the reserve area such as what is harvestable in relation to topography.

Manager Shane arrived at 8:30 p.m.

The Committee members asked for the Manager's input regarding revenue and how it would or would not be allocated towards the Rines Forest. Manager Shane said it would not be inappropriate to recommend that a fund be designated for revenue that is generated by the Rines Forest; however this should not be included in the management plan.

Sally Stockwell asked that a reference be added to the Focus Species appendix that makes it clearer where the information is coming from.

There was discussion of a wetland that was continued from the previous meeting. Manager Shane had provided a map that calculated the area to be approximately 17 acres. This area could be an area considered for preservation or conservation if the Committee desired it.

Sally Stockwell updated Mr. Brauscheidel on some other species that she has seen in the forest to add to a chart in the focus species appendix.

The Committee agreed to expand the reserve area to include areas that border or are close to the currently proposed area and to make the area as big as possible. Mr. Braunscheidel recommended that the area be laid out in the field so that the appropriate sections are included. Bob Waterhouse suggested that a range of acreage be set. Warren Graumann suggested a range of at least 40-80 acres. Mr. Braunscheidel explained a scenario for this area to help the Committee understand how it could be managed. Information will be added to the document to clarify this.

The document will be ready to present to the Council with the minor changes incorporated.

IV. Next Meeting, Thursday, January 15, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Cumberland Town Hall.

V. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy Stroud  
Recording Secretary