

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 Agenda
February 9, 2010
7:00 PM – Town Hall

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of December 1, 2009 meeting minutes
- III. Update on 2010 Harvest
- IV. Finalize Forest Management Plan
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

Committee Member Roster

'09 Sally Stockwell
Jennifer West

'10 Warren Graumann
Henry Milburn
Richard Sweetser
Bruce Wildes

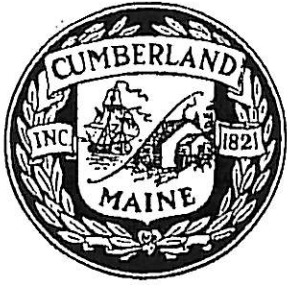
'11 Mitch Elliott
Robert Heyner
Lisa Judd
Robert Waterhouse

Staff

Bill Shane wshane@cumberlandmaine.com
Anne Brushwein abrushwein@cumberlandmaine.com

Council Liaison's

Jeff Porter mesit5@maine.rr.com
Steve Moriarty smoriarty@nhdlaw.com



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**Rines Forest Advisory Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2009
Town Hall
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Henry Milburn, Bob Heyner, Jennifer West, Sally Stockwell, Richard Sweetser, Bob Waterhouse, Warren Graumann, Mitch Elliott and Councilors Stephen Moriarty and Jeff Porter

Absent: Bruce Wildes and Lisa Judd

Staff: Bill Shane, Town Manager, Anne Brushwein, Recording Secretary, Jay Braunscheidel, Consultant, Integrated Forest Management

- I. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes of the October 27, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved
- III. **Jay Braunscheidel: Discussion of the 2010 Harvest :** Jay began his discussion with the news that the Otleys did not want to remove the pine trees on their property. This severely limits the use of their property as a landing area, leaving the Town with two options: Option One, located on the Fox Trail near the rear boundary of the property, and Option Two, on the Red Trail near the Fisher Trail. Both options have drawbacks, but after some lengthy discussion, it was decided that Option One was the better choice. While some tree-cutting would be necessary, no fill would have to be brought in, it provides an existing road for the trucks and equipment, and utilizes existing infrastructure for the flow of the wood. Option Two was rejected due to it's location in a more sensitive area of the forest, and the necessity of bringing in fill to level it out, as well as it's proximity to a confluence of trails. Chairman Waterhouse called for a motion to vote, which was made and seconded, and the Committee voted unanimously for Option One. Jay then turned to the topic of weather. So far, the weather has not been conducive to the harvest. The forest is still extremely wet and the soils are not well drained. Jay's crew will go in and set up as much as possible, without making a mess. The committee felt that the best course of action, if the ground is not thoroughly frozen, would be to postpone the harvest until 2011. There have been no expenses incurred to date and the Town will not lose any money by postponing the harvest.

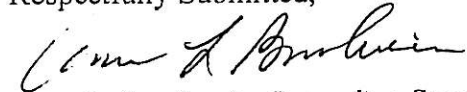
Sally asked if the new skidder trails would be significantly wider than the existing trails. Jay replied that any new skid trails would only be slightly wider, and that his crew will utilize existing trails whenever possible.

Bill asked Jay to explain the process involved in piggy-backing Dale Rines' tree harvest onto the Town harvest. Jay informed the committee that Dale's harvest can only be done after the Town harvest is completed. There can be no co-mingling of the wood.

Jay expressed his concern about people wandering through the forest during the harvest. The equipment is dangerous and it will be a hard-hat area. Bill assured the committee that signs will be posted closing the trails due to the harvest and that there will be public notification of the harvest and the trail closures. After some discussion concerning tours of the harvesting site, the committee decided to limit tours to the Rines Forest Advisory Committee and the Lands Trust Committee. Councilman Porter suggested that some of the harvest operation could be filmed and broadcast on Channel Two, as an educational tool for the general public.

- IV. Finalizing Total Management Plan: Update:** Copies of Sally's Introduction to the Forest Management Plan were handed out to the committee and Sally requested that any comments or suggestions be emailed to her. Sally agreed to write the Executive Summary as well. Bill said that he should be ready to present the completed Forest Management Plan to the Town Council by the end of January or early February, however, the issue of camping in the Rines Forest has never been resolved. The committee discussed using the new landing area as a possible camping/meeting area. Bob Waterhouse felt that the new landing area should be kept open for future uses to be determined. Councilman Porter suggested leaving the camping option open, but felt that having designated camping areas was not the best way to go. After further discussion, the committee decided to table the camping issue and discuss it at a future meeting.
- V. Other Business:** It was decided to laminate the Lyme Disease brochure and post it at the kiosk.
- VI. Next Meeting Date:** The next Rines Forest Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
- VII. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Respectfully Submitted,



Anne L. Brushwein, Recording Secretary