

# Twin Brook Minutes July 9, 2013

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## **Attendance:**

Shirley Story-King  
Jackie Stowell  
John Eldredge  
Kay Fowler  
Iwana Tarling  
Terry Malone-Kelly  
Christopher Bolduc

## **Call to Order 6:30pm**

## **Motion to accept the Minutes from May 14th**

### **New Business: Forest Harvesting Plan**

Paul Larravee, Forester for Sappi Fine Paper. Mr. Larravee grew up in Gray. Forestry program at U Maine and was a forester with the State; for last 2 years with Sappi managing wood lots for private owners. Sappi has a program that is an updated tree farm program. We don't own land we just have mills. We manage wood lots for land owners in exchange for pulp wood – wood is marketed to the best highest use. They market the wood. We hold the contracts and hire the loggers. The land owner doesn't have that responsibility. All size lots depending on access and objectives of the land owner. Our goal is to build long term relationships with wood owners and get pulp wood for Sappi – but we will market their products to the highest and best use. We hold the contract and we own the wood, the logger doesn't own the wood and we pay the land owner and logger. This past winter we did a harvest for the Town of Wells. Wells had spoken to several harvesters and the harvesters were going to charge the town of Wednesday to harvest the wood and they would take the wood. As a Forester for Sappi, I came in and said I would pay them. They made about \$8,000.00, it wasn't a very big harvest. I like challenging projects. We take care of informational notices and notify abutters.

Mr. Leavitt: These people have worked closely with Penny Asherman and the Conservation Committee regarding the Cottontail Rabbit and if we decide to go ahead with this Harvesting project it might be that we can incorporate a plan at Twin Brook to create habitat at the same time. It's certainly a possibility.

Paul Larravee: Management Plan: First step is to identify the objectives; what needs to be accomplished. I would develop the timber plan portion of management plan and where the yard would be. Plans are always adaptable. Even the objectives are adaptable. The plan is step by step how to achieve you objectives. We don't charge landowners for the plan as we hope you will use us. We also bring certification if the Town would like; SFI, PEFT, FST, FSC. Certification grows out of the consumer side – people want to know that the product was harvested in a sustainable manner. We will determine the boundaries, the product and conditions, get the permits, and put together the steps needed. I'll be glad to work with Kelly while developing the plan for good habitats for the Cottontail rabbit.

Mr. Eldredge said that we will have to put together a list of objectives and some of those objectives may be contradictory. M. Larravee said that they would review and help us come up with a way to mesh the goals and understand the ramifications and what the compromise could or should be. Timing and

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restrictions will be identified with the help of the DEP and the Town. Lynn and Penny pointed out probable sites for the cottontails. Mr. Larravee will review the land and see what type of product is on the property and where. We also make sure we adhere to all state standards. This is the starting process:

1. Identify Resources
2. Identify goals and objectives
3. Draft a plan
4. Meet and discuss it

Once the Committee has developed a plan they like, then the Town Council will review, edit and tweak the plan more. As far as timing, it may take some time to get this off, but we can start the planning right away.

Q: Why do you have to timber to have habitat for cotton tails?

A: The rabbits thrive in new and early succession growth, where their predators can't see them. But a mixture of age growth is ideal.

This should be a good long term forest management plan that can be used again 20, 30 or 40 years from now.

Ms. Storey King: This is an Advisory Committee they don't have the ability to make or initiate plans; Paul what authority do you need? Mr. Bolduc: I was asked to look into a plan and I charged this committee with the responsibility of looking into a plan and we could talk back and forth until we came up with a plan that we would like to recommend to the Council. The Council would take it under advisement and as we stated they would begin their review process. I would be the operational staff person to implement the project if it is given the go ahead.

We'll put together some very broad objectives and be in touch with you. Thank you Mr. Larravee.

### **Other New Business:**

- Potential storage building being constructed at TB (Shirley);
- Council decision to endorse disc golf;
- Comm. Garden - does it have to be organic to be successful (Chris).

### **Motion to Adjourn:**

- Motion made by Mr. Eldredge
- Motion seconded by Mr. Loring

**Meeting adjourned at 8pm**