

Burke Town Forest Subcommittee Meeting April 8, 2025 6pm Burke Community Building

In attendance: Cliff Pierce, Don Hale, Hank Butler, Diane Wells, Guest: Matt Langlais; Absent: Elise Lawson

March Meeting Minutes: Cliff motion to accept, Don second. Approved

Treasurer's report: None available at this time. Awaiting information from town.

Willey Woods updates: LSR grant awarded from the VT Dept. Forest, Parks and Recreation. Projects to begin this July with NWSC conducting forest complexity enhancement work. Committee meeting with Jason Borg (DEC Stream Alteration Engineer) on May 5th to look at bridge replacement options and learn if Stream Alt Permit required.

Sign and Kiosk is nearing completion by Bob Gondar with installation ready by early May. Volunteers needed to help site kiosk, dig holes, and set. Discussed information to go on kiosk: Map, forest history, funders, partners, contact/governance (town forest committee information, rules and regulations, etiquette, dogs, qr code to plan.

Matt to do map, reach out to NEFF, TPL and VHCB for their signs to include as partners.

Diane to write up history. Don to bring this to Lyndon for possible laser engraving.

North Pasture updates: Cliff reached out to Geoff at KT to discuss parking lot. KT interested in partnering with us. Cliff to meet with them and discuss options.

Diane worked with Gail Weed to get plan up on website.

Cliff contacted game warden Cody Jackman to invite him to educate committee on hunting and trapping regulations. Plan to have this meeting combined with CC in early fall.

Update from Hank on various educational speakers and community projects for 2025:

Hank interested in educational program with Burke Town School. Hank wrote grant for speaker fee for VINS to come in the fall. Hank collaborating with Lindley from BTS.

Coyote to Wolf Program: Hank to continue pursuing.

Diane looking into workshop with VT Butterfly Atlas to get people engaged in this endeavor.

Kevin Mack to do bird walk at Willey Woods in late May. Date TBD.

Any other business: Sara Bresnick submitted resignation, she will be missed and the committee thanks her for her commitment and efforts. Brandon Mapes to focus on Conservation Commission and leave Forest Subcommittee.

Payment to LI for sign work. Unclear whether payment was made by town. Don to reach out to LI to see if received. Hank to ask town whether check was sent.

Don update: Town has a brontosaurus. Committee to see if this equipment can be used for habitat work.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:15pm

Respectfully submitted, Matt Langlais