

May 6, 2024
DRAFT Minutes of the Forest and Parks Commission
Chelsea Town Library
Start time 6:00 pm

Present: Jen Chase, Susan Elder, Kate Willard, Robin Amber, Pete Amber, John Latham, Andy Pomerantz, Susan Hoffman, Frank Keene.

Meeting minutes from April 2024 were approved as submitted.

Public Comments:

Frank Keene stated he feels that the Babcock property should remain untouched as it is fine the way it is and he is concerned about increasing the traffic problem and possible mis-use of the lot if trees are planted. He explained flooding history of area.

Spring fundraiser/memorial trees: Pete Amber said he spoke to David Savidge who is on the Health Center board and David will bring the idea of combining forces to the Board. Clean up was rolled into the Green Up Day efforts. Ron Johnson who cares for the town's properties does not have an aerator. It was suggested that the town may have one and if not, could we rent and then ask Ron to add this to his tasks. Susan and Kate will ask Selectboard.

Andy Pomerantz reported on the Town's forest walk held last weekend. Several options were discussed to enhance the use and knowledge of the town's forest. It was suggested that signage for trails, parking area, The group wanted to know if additional logging will be done and if so, when? Susan and Kate will add this to the selectboards' list of questions. Also, the group wants to know if the Forest plan has been signed by the selectboard.

The group wants to pursue the enforcement of not driving on the greens due to the damage to tree roots. The flea market manager feels that flea market has grandfathered permission. The group would like to speak to the selectboard to ask if the ordinance can be enforced for all groups that use the greens. Susan and Kate will add this to the selectboard's questions.

Susan Hoffman addressed the interest in helping out with the community involvement of the pollinator grant, if granted this summer. She explained that a curriculum designed around participation of the project could work very well for the summer students in the program.

Susan Elder received a phone message from selectperson Lena Hoyt asking for a suggestion to fill the Tree Warden position. Pete Amber suggested Zeb Allen. Zeb has expressed interest and Pete feels Zeb would be a good person for the job.

Susan Elder requested that the grant from the regional planning commission of the VT Urban and Community Forestry program be reviewed for a possible application of trees onto other town properties as

the money is available and they are eager to help with the process. The deadline for the grant is this coming November. Next meeting will be June 3.

Adjourn. End at 7:10 p.m.