



Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE
Meeting Room A
Ashland Town Hall, 101 Main Street, Ashland MA
March 11, 2020

1
2 Present: Brian Forestal (Chair)
3 Michael Jones (Vice Chair)
4 Cathy Rooney
5 Robert St. Germain (acting secretary)
6
7 Absent: William Moulton (Secretary), Brian McGrattan (Associate)
8

9 **Call to order: 7:00 P.M.**

10
11 Reviewed the minutes of February 9, 2020. Mr. St. Germain motioned, seconded by Mr. Jones,
12 to approve the minutes. Motion passed 4-0-0
13

14 Reviewed the minutes of February 20, 2020. Mr. St. Germain motioned, seconded by Mr.
15 Jones, to approve the minutes. Motion passed 4-0-0
16

17 Ms. Rooney requested that we reopen the discussion of the Stewardship Priorities/Goals. The
18 goals were voted at the February 9, 2020 meeting. It was agreed to add this item to the next
19 planning meeting agenda.
20

21 Updates:

22 Mr. St. Germain informed the committee that Eversource will shortly begin another wave of
23 vegetation management on the right of way. Working with Roy Correia, acting tree warden, he
24 ok'd 9 of 11 trees for cutting that were a threat to the powerlines.
25

26 Mr. Moulton has suggested that two helmets, a pair of chaps, and gloves be added to the tool
27 procurement list. The committee agreed and added safety glasses and 2 pairs of ear protection.
28

29 Mr. Jones and Mr. St. Germain reported their meeting with the Conservation Commission
30 regarding the NOI. The ConCom voted acceptance of the NOI.
31

32 Mr. St. Germain reported that Eversource has proposed locating a utility pole just to the left of
33 the gate at the Winter Street main lot. The committee agreed that locating the pole on the right
34 side of the gate was preferred. Mr. St. Germain will follow up with the electrician.
35

36 Mr. St. Germain reported that the DPW brought 3 loads (13.53 tons) of dense grade gravel and
37 completed the ramps on the ATF shed. Cost of \$199.45 charged to CPC Grant #2.
38

39 Ms. Rooney indicated that she has been in touch with two boy scouts looking for Eagle
40 projects. One has proposed installing benches in the forest. The other wants to install mile

41 markers. Ms. Rooney asked how many benches the committee would want and where. This
42 discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

43
44 Ms. Rooney also indicated that the CPC is allowed to fund invasives work. She suggested the
45 committee consider renting goats for the Japanese knotweed infestation. This item was also
46 tabled.

47
48 Expenses:
49 Mr. St. Germain motioned, Mr. Jones seconded, approval for payment of the McIntyre invoice
50 #82674 for shed ramp gravel. Motion passed 4-0-0.

51
52 After a brief discussion, Mr. Jones motioned, Ms. Rooney seconded, the acceptance of Ed
53 Harts reimbursement for shed workbench materials in the amount of \$94.18.
54 Motion passed 3-1(Forestal)-0

55
56 Mr. Jones motioned, Ms. Rooney seconded acceptance for payment of Ashland Lumber
57 invoices #76433 (screws for workbench) \$12.60 and #74081(4x4 for workbench) \$16.75.
58 Motion passed 3-1 (Forestal)-0

59
60 Mr. Jones motioned, Ms. Rooney seconded Mr. St. Germain's expense invoice#200311 in the
61 amount of \$735.18 for tools, and ATFC dues for Sudbury Valley Trustees (\$100) and New
62 England Mountain Bike Assoc. (\$60). Motion passed 4-0-0

63
64 BAA Grant Discussion:
65 It was agreed to apply for a BAA grant for the following items: 1. Funding for 25 botany
66 plaques with QR codes for self-guided trail (\$200), 2. Forest programs (\$1800), 3. Boundary
67 marking (\$500). The committee asked to add Botany plaque and QR code to the agenda of
68 our next meeting.

69
70 Project Tracker:
71 The committee reviewed Yellow Trail action items.

72
73 **9.00 PM Adjournment**

74 Mr. St. Germain motioned, seconded by Mr. Jones, to adjourn the meeting.
75 Motion passed 4-0-0.

76
77 **Documents Reviewed by the Town Forest Committee on 02/20/2020**

- 78 • Town Forest Committee Agenda 20200311
- 79 • Document entitled, *ATFC minutes 2020-02-9 draft*
- 80 • Document entitled, *ATFC minutes 2020-02-20 draft*
- 81 • Document entitled, *RsG Expense Rpt 200311*
- 82 • Document entitled, *Ashland Lumber inv#76433 and 74081*
- 83 • Document entitled, *Ed Hart invoice 2020-0220 – work bench*
- 84 • Online Document entitled, Project Tracker
- 85 • Document entitled, *McIntyre Loam #82674*