



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 William Moulton (Secretary)
5 Cathy Rooney (7:04 pm)
6 Robert St. Germain
7 Brian McGrattan (Associate)
8

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

10
11 Reviewed the minutes of March 11, 2020. Mr. Moulton motioned, seconded by Mr. St.
12 Germain, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed 5-0-0.
13

14 Updates:

15 Mr. Moulton provided an update on new maps for the map posts.
16

17 Expense Reports

18 Mr. St. Germain has been spent down the grant money. All expenses are being charged to
19 CPC#2 as well as the Ashland Lumber invoice.
20

21 Mr. Moulton motioned, Mr. Jones seconded, acceptance for payment of
22 Invoices #2020-506 for \$530.39. Motion passed 5-0-0.
23

24 Mr. Moulton motioned, Ms. Jones seconded, acceptance for payment of Ashland Lumber
25 invoice #100685 for \$1353.28. Motion passed 5-0-0.
26

27 The committee discussed FY2020 budget 200506
28

29 The committee discussed tool procurement. The list will need to be reduced in order to stay
30 within budget. The fire extinguisher, first aid kit, safety glasses, helmet, chaps and peavey will
31 finish off the tool budget.
32

33 There was a discussion of Boy Scout projects. Ms. Rooney had project inquiry from two boy
34 scouts.

- 35 1. Ground truth trail distances and apply DCR heart healthy trail concepts to out trails
 - 36 2. Provide benches at scenic points
- 37

38 Mr. Forestal suggested that these subjects be discussed in the Forest Planning meeting.
39 Discussed the scouts painting the shed. Also discussed having the boy scouts do invasive

40 species inventory and possibly permit with the Conservation Commission for control of
41 invasive species.

42
43 The committee discussed 501 (c)(3) and Friends of Forest. Mr. St. Germain discussed
44 possible mechanisms to raise funds for the ATFC activities. Mr. Forestal said Michael Herbert,
45 Town Manager, is in favor of it. Ms. Rooney explained the legal requirements for setting up
46 and running a 501 (c)(3). Mr. St. Germain will talk to town officials about fund raising
47 requirements.

48
49 The committee discussed the problem with dog waste and signage in the Town Forest. Mr. St.
50 Germain discussed dog waste, utilizing Dog Park committee to help to help. DNA could be
51 used to help control the problem. He mentioned a company called Duty Call that will come and
52 pick up waste barrels. The company will pick up dog waste. Ms. Rooney has written article on
53 dog waste and will write another article. The committee also discussed dogs off leash in the
54 forest. Mr. Forestal talked about using a camera to document the problem. Could investigate
55 having the police bike patrol enforce the leash law and dog waste. Mr. Forestal explained a dog
56 DNA program that he investigated. The dog DNA program would be a long-term project. The
57 committee discussed utilizing trail cameras as a short-term approach.

58
59 Mr. St. Germain stated that the committee's grant application (#4) for deer exclusion fence,
60 boundary fence and rain garden was approved at the CPC meeting the night before. The
61 appropriation will need to be approved at Town Meeting. Mr. St. Germain has identified three
62 possible deer fencing locations for the CPC. Ms. Rooney asked to have the SVT hunter
63 consulted for possible locations.

64
65 The discussion on how to prepare for the Town Meeting was tabled.

66
67 Boundary marking was discussed. Mr. McGrattan will be coordinating the effort.

68
69 Mr. St. Germain stated that a contractor will be providing trees to the town. Mr. Jones stated
70 that the tree bylaw will be at the Town Meeting in the fall. Miss Rooney asked if a developer
71 would be paying for trees or the money would be going into the fund. The committee discussed
72 a tree replacement program for the forest.

73
74 **8:57 PM Adjournment**

75 Mr. St. Germain motioned, seconded by Mr. Rooney, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-
76 0-0.

77
78 **Documents Reviewed by the Town Forest Committee on 05/06/2020**

- 79
- Town Forest Committee Agenda 2020-05-06
 - 80 • Document entitled, *ATFC minutes 2020-03-11 draft*
 - 81 • Document entitled, *CANVASN Order 22132*
 - 82 • Document entitled, *Monnick #86888*
 - 83 • Document entitled, *Lowes 12711895*
 - 84 • Document entitled, *AmazonSmile - Order 112-8875375-7297058*
 - 85 • Document entitled, *AmazonSmile - Order 114-5223340-7828268*
 - 86 • Document entitled, *2020-0506 RsG Expense Rpt*

- 87 • Document entitled, *Ashland Lumber inv#100685 bridge lumber*
- 88 • Document entitled, *Boundary Monitoring and Marking Guide for Volunteers*
- 89 • Document entitled, *Standards for marking boundaries*
- 90 • Document entitled, *FY2020 budget 200506*