



# Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

## MEETING MINUTES

### ASHLAND TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

Zoom Online Meeting – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89435771853>

July 29, 2020 7:00 PM

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Present: Brian Forestal (Chair)  
Michael Jones (Vice Chair)  
William Moulton (Secretary)  
Cathy Rooney  
Robert St. Germain

Public: Tim Riedl

### Call to order: 7:00 P.M.

Item 1. Tim Riedl is a boy scout from Troop 12 in Framingham. He will be constructing a 60-foot boardwalk extension to the Bridge 2 (south) on the yellow trail. He has been out to the site with Mr. St. Germain. He will be getting approval from his council and then will start fund raising. Mr. St. Germain motioned, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve Tim Riedl to extend the south bridge an additional 60 feet plus ramps. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Item 2. Reviewed the minutes of July 15, 2020. Mr. St. Germain motioned, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed 5-0-0

Item 3. Mr. St. Germain has not been able to talk to the owner of the Harrington parcel.

Item 4. Mr. St. Germain mentioned that now we have a budget, Mr. McGrattan doesn't need to use paint. Discussed best way to mark the boundary but looked to table the discussion until Mr. McGrattan is available. Mr. St. Germain motioned, seconded by Ms. Rooney, to table Item 4. Motion passed 5-0-0

Item 5. Mr. Jones stated that the rain garden has some grass growing and has been watering twice per day. Will be reseeding one area tomorrow. The new seed seems growing faster. The old area will be watered once a day and the newly seeded area twice a day. Mr. Jones will communicate with the nursery on the plants regarding delivery of plants. Mr. St. Germain will do the evening watering

Item 6. Justin O'Brien project for Bridge 1 (north) was approved by the Boy Scout Council. He will start fund raising. Discussed that expenses should include permitting costs. The financial director has fiscal procedures. The boy scouts will pay for everything and any remaining funds will go to the ATFC.

Item 7. Ms. Rooney said that someone was walking their goats in the town forest. She is concerned with goats eating vegetation other than invasive plants. Discussed using goats for invasive species control.

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Item 8. Ms. Rooney was on the new trail off Oak Street noticed bike impact. She is concerned about damage from bikes. She believes we should designate certain trails where bikes are not allowed. Mr. Jones sees more people walking than he sees bikes and what he sees is mostly families. Discussed options on dealing with trail erosion issues. Will need to wait until UTV to do some of work. Mr. Forestal stated that NEMBA can help.

Item 9. Andrew Rice is actively sourcing materials and raising funds. He is asking for an extension for the Boy Scout Council as he is turning 18 soon. He is having issues getting materials.

Item 10. Mr. St. Germain stated that the DPW is coming back on Friday to lift the kiosk at Oak St. to take 12” off the bottom. Ms. Rooney may have an article about the dog issues coming out next week. Mr. St. Germain said an article about out projects will be in the paper

Item 11. Mr. St. Germain went over the budget report. CPC Grant #2 is at zero. The boy scout fund will have \$109.95 balance after CPC approves extra expense for the pullerbear wrench. Only outstanding grant is the \$5000 for Phase 2 of the stone bungalow. The committee has a \$2600 budget with the DPW. Will be getting a purchase order number for procurement of supplies. He is working out the details with the DPW. Mr. St. Germain and Mr. Jones may need incidentals for the projects so a mechanism will be added to the next agenda. Will look at Grant #5 to see if any changes are needed.

Item 12. Mr. St. Germain went over his expense report of 7/29/2020 Invoice #200729. Mr. Moulton motioned, seconded by Mr. Jones, to table approve payment of expense reimbursement form Invoice 200729. Motion passed 5-0-0

Item 13. Sign Wording Discussion. Committee discussed language of various signs that could be used in the town forest and came to consensus about language on some signs.

- a. Closed Trail Sign – Trail Closed - Area Closed for Regeneration - Sensitive Habitat Area - Please Stay Out
- b. Stay on Trail Sign – Preserve the Forest - Please Stay on the Trail
- c. Private Property Sign – Trail Ends at Private Property - No Exit
- d. Dog Waste Sign – Mr. St. Germain will develop some language
- e. Forestry for Bird Sign – table until view the signs

Discussed size and materials for the signs. Will provide examples for review.

### **8:45 PM Adjournment.**

Mr. Jones motioned, seconded by Ms. Rooney, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0-0

### **Documents Reviewed by the Town Forest Committee on 07/29/2020**

- Town Forest Committee Agenda 2020-07-29
- Document entitled, *ATFC minutes 2020-07-15 draft*
- Document entitled, 2020-0729 RstG Expense Rpt
- Document entitled, 200729 ATF Budget Report
- Document entitled, AppleCard-Pullerbear scam credit
- Document entitled, Lowes return#16506

- 89 • Document entitled, Monnick Supply invE91084
- 90 • Document entitled, N.E. Laminating inv#6321
- 91 • Document entitled, ProQuo SvcsCanada-Pullerbearinv6