

Tunbridge Town Forest Committee Meeting  
August 17, 2022, 7:30pm  
Town Office

Attendees: Gordy B, Larry M, rudi R, Brenda F, Fred P, Gary M.

Guests: Jonathan B, Michael S, Maureen M., Betty B., Kate C., Sue S., Lori B..

Meeting was brought to order at 7:30p by Chair Gary M.

#### Public Comment

No public comments were contributed.

#### Proposed 'Garage Lot' Trail

Gary invited Trails Committee Chair Jonathan to review details regarding the proposed trail, including comments received at previous Saturday's walk of the trail. Jonathan led the discussion, distributing maps of the trail.

Directional signs, an assignment of the trail walking difficulty, and ongoing maintenance concerns were discussed. Michael S. suggested that Upper Valley Trail Alliance's Sean Ogle may be helpful for trail creation, signs, and maintenance questions. Possible terms: 'Easy,' 'Moderate,' 'Steep.' Michael also mentioned Strafford's Mike Hebb may be a resource for trail signs provision. For now, the trail is tagged with green logging tags.

The trail is based on a recent logging treatment, and there will be opportunities for ongoing maintenance such as brush hogging, grading, invasive weeding and clearing of downed trees [currently there is a tree blocking part of the trail]. Interpretative forest signs will inform informal visitors as well as support educational classes.

Larry M. moved to accept the proposed trail as documented on trail map. Brenda seconded; all town forest committee members voted YES.

Jonathan & Brenda proposed a future Trail Opening event to help bring awareness & appreciation of the trail. Brenda suggested this event might coordinate with a fall series on wildlife in the town, with a contest to help name the town forest, taking into account local town history.

Access to 'Drew Lot' Town Forest

Michael S. raised an interest in developing an access to the Drew Lot from downtown Tunbridge. He has spoken with the Sponable's, downtown landowner regarding crossing their land to reach the town forest. Other committee members voiced additional options, perhaps from Potash Road. Snowmobile clubs organizers may be a resource for draft agreements which are used by clubs for wintertime land access. Currently this lot can be accessed from Drew Road.

Minutes of the June 29, 2022 Town Forest Committee Meeting were read and approved by Town Forest Committee Members.

#### Other Business

Brenda updated everyone on ongoing organizing for a series of events collaborating with the Town Conservation and Trails Committees; hoping for some financial support for speakers from the Town Forest Committee.

Fred motioned to adjourn at 8:15p; Brenda seconded.