

Randolph Forest Commission Minutes

Date: May 7, 2014
Location: Randolph Town Hall
Members Present: John Scarinza – Chair, Jeff Parker, Mark Kelley
Others Present: David Willcox, Tyge Rugenstein - Crown Maple, Dan Crocker
- Crown Maple

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

- I. Minutes of the April 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved
- II. Dan Crocker and Tyge Rugenstein of Crown Maple made a presentation to the RFC about the possibilities of maple syrup production on the Randolph Community Forest. The company is owned by Rob Turner and operates from its base in Dove Plains, NY. Dan operates over 23,000 taps on his property in VT and Crown Maple maintains over 38,000 taps, 20,000 on their company property and 18,000 on leased land. The interest was in the section known as 3A with approximately 675 acres and potential for 30,000 to 50,000 taps. This parcel conflicts with a current proposed timber harvest for 2016. Vermont State leases provide for 25% of bulk rates, which at current market are about \$0.75 per gallon. Crown is basing this proposal upon 50,000 taps. Dan estimated that 3A may be closer to 700 Acres at about 70 taps by acre, or 54,000 taps. NH Department of Resource and Economic Development's best practices requires a minimum of 12" tree diameter, which may cut back on the number of taps per acre. The next step is to take this proposal under advisement, discuss the options with our Forester and get back to Crown Maple by the June meeting. If the RFC were to proceed in this direction, the commission would have to go out for a formal request for proposals before selecting one proposal.
- III. Martha Cummings sent her presentation that the commission requested be done on the Farrar property, originally known as the Levi Lowe House. She also forwarded a copy of a NH DOT review of this same property done in 2003. The plan and report were distributed to the

Randolph Forest Commission Minutes

Commission members to review before the June meeting for further discussion. The commission will invite Martha Cummings to attend the Annual Forest Day in August to make a presentation to the public who attend.

- IV. John Scarinza distributed a preliminary plan by the Coos County Conservation District regarding the reintroduction of native grasses in the area of the RCF Israel River Watershed. The members will review the proposal for discussion at the June meeting. The plan suggests some steps that could be taken in the summer of 2014 in preparation for 2015 planting.
- V. Invoices: York Land Service presented an invoice for \$21.00 for computer files prepared for the Forest team. Brian Campbell presented an invoice for \$175 for 7 hours of boundary line marking. Walt Wintturi presented an invoice for \$1,226.25 for sale administration and plan updates.
- VI. A motion was made and approved to ask York Land Services to survey the boundary lines on South side of Route 2 of the Farrar property to insure this is well delineated for accuracy.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday June 4, at 7:00 PM in the Randolph Town Hall.