

Randolph Forest Commission Minutes

Date: December 4, 2013
Location: Randolph Town Hall
Members Present: John Scarinza – Chair, Doug Mayer, Jeff Parker, Mark Kelley
Others Present: David Willcox, Walt Wintturi

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

- I. Minutes of the November 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved
- II. The RFC took the opportunity to review the final draft of the Second Stewardship Plan with Walt Wintturi and clarify questions the RFC had. Specifically there was discussion about the definition of vernal pools and sections of the plan that should be revised to reflect the RFC's comments. John Scarinza will convey the changes to the wildlife team, who will revise the plan for final publication. Some small map errors were highlighted along with a few mistaken references. The plan with noted changes will be presented at the Planning Board Meeting, December 5. Upon approval of the Planning Board, the final plan will be circulated and posted on the RFC website (www.randolphforest.org). It will then be sent to NH Department of Revenue and Economic Development (DRED) for final approval.
- III. David Willcox mentioned that he discussed with David Tellman, of the Presidential Gem and Mineral Society, the potential development of a new trail from the Farrar Tract to the Crystal Mine. This would make access safer and more direct. The RFC felt this would be worth further exploration.
- IV. The idea of creating a bird study on the RCF was brought up to explore this season. John Scarinza will contact Sam Stoddard, the former County Extension Officer, to see if he might be of some assistance.
- V. Walt Wintturi presented a chart of Volume Growth by RCF "Compartments." It was interesting to see the increase in forest volume over the past 10 years. The Community Forest has been divided into eight "compartments," and seven were measured in 2003 and again in

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2013. Only one compartment of the seven measured, showed a decrease in the 10 years. That was due to severe ice storm damage and salvage harvesting prior to formation of RCF, which stunted the growth rate in that area. Only one of the six remaining compartments were not cut from 2003 to 2013, but all six showed good, positive growth rates.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM. Because of the January 1 holiday falling on the first Wednesday of the month, the next meeting will be held Wednesday January 8, at 7:00 PM in the Randolph Town Hall.