

## **THE RANDOLPH FOREST COMMISSION July 6, 2016**

**Members Present:** John Scarinza and Walter Graff

**Alternates Present:** David Willcox

**Others Present:** Michele Cormier and David DeGruttola  
(LandVest)

The chairman opened the meeting at 7:10 pm. He asked David to sit for Mark. He then asked if everyone had read the minutes for May and June and if there were corrections to suggest. None were offered and Walter moved that they be adopted as written. David seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Commission then reviewed the proposed draft contract with Fuller's Maple Farm, LLC of Lancaster, NH. John will add two sections; one to provide the opportunity for a five-year review of tap lease prices and the other to authorize the inclusion of a study plot for assessing the health of smaller trees when tapped. For the latter he will adapt the description sent by Steve Roberge of the UNH extension division, who will be overseeing the study.

David moved that the Commission approve the draft contract, with those two amendments, and offer it to Dave Fuller for finalizing.

David DeGruttola is reviewing and extracting historical data about the RCF from the hard disc. He needs to contact Elise Lawson. David will send him her e-mail address. John

explained the RMC had recently completed a new map of the RMC trail system, which included a great deal of additional information about the Community Forest and will help him obtain a digital version. Michele pointed out that the western end of the Community Forest (where the only RMC trail will be the Crystal Mine Trail when it is finished) is not covered by that map.

There was a discussion about work needed on roads in the Pond of Safety part of the Forest. David DeGruttola will ask Mike Kelley to undertake it and, while he has a flatbed truck on the Pond of Safety Road, he would be able to bring back a temporary bridge and several unused culverts which have been stored there for the last couple of years. They can be relocated to the Farrar Farm and put up on blocks for better storage.

There followed a discussion of the Ice Gulch trail, where 300' of trail has been obliterated. The trail is almost completely within the Gorham Town Forest and the most logical explanation is that the damage was done when Gorham carried out a timber harvest in the area two years ago. Randolph has had no timber harvesting activities in that area for many years and the damage was clearly done by skidders during harvesting activity. What is not clear is why the damage was not reported last year.

The Commission then approved one invoice from LandVest for \$427.74 representing time that David DeGruttola has spent on RCF business.

There was some discussion of the upcoming Forest Day, which will be held, as usual, on the first Saturday of August, August 6<sup>th</sup>. John asked David to check with Mark to make sure that Katie Stuart's plaque is on schedule to be completed in time.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by general consent at 8:45 pm

Posted at Town Hall on July 7, 2016

Respectfully Submitted

David L. Willcox Acting Secretary