

Fayston Natural Resources Committee
November 8th, 2011
Minutes

Present: Ned Kelley, Ky Koitzsch, Lisa Koitzsch, Cory Stephenson

1. Select Board Meeting (Ed Read, Jared Cadwell, Bob Vasseur, Patti Lewis, Stewart Halstrom).

The FNRC met with the Fayston Select Board to discuss the creation of a Land Conservation Fund. The Select Board was supportive of the idea and agreed to put the item on the Town Meeting Warning so that Fayston voters can provide feedback to FNRC. All agreed that the Fund should be designated a Conservation Reserve Fund so that there would not be a need to bring the issue up at every Town Meeting and it would be included as a line item in the Town Budget. Ed Read suggested that the presentation at Town Meeting be factual and specific and that FNRC should ask for a specific amount to seed the fund. FNRC also considered placing an article on a Conservation Reserve Fund in the Valley Reporter prior to Town Meeting.

FNRC then moved to another room to continue their meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

LISA: Review Town Report from last year to review other Town Meeting Warnings and forward to Cory. Contact Fayston Select Board and discuss the possibility of using funds from delinquent taxes.

CORY: Draft Proposed Conservation Reserve Fund Warning and e-mail Jens and Jamie for help with wording.

KY: Contact Waitsfield Conservation Commission and find out: 1) How their fund was started; 2) What is their fund called; 3) How much do they budget for the fund every year; 4) What they have been able to do with their fund.

NED: Contact Warren Conservation Commission and find out the same 4 items listed above.

2. Minutes from 10/11/11

The minutes were not discussed and should be reviewed and approved at the December meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

ALL: Remember to approve minutes at our next meeting.

3. Tri-town conservation meeting.

Cory's suggestion of an article in the Valley Reporter that rotates monthly between conservation groups was discussed.

ACTION ITEMS:

CORY: Talk to Caitrin Noel.

NED: Ask Lisa Loomis if there is any space available in the VR for a monthly article/report.

4. McCullough Barn project.

Ky reported that the foundation is finished and that Kingsbury's has completed the final grading. Ned, Lisa and Cory volunteered to seed and hay the area surrounding the barn. Ned will ask Stan Button if he is able to help. The barn structure will be raised in the spring and Alces Post & Beam will use the winter to work on restoring some of the damaged/rotting beams. Ned suggested translucent roof panels in order to bring in more natural light. FNRC discussed organizing a community barn raising.

5. True North

The Act 250 hearings pertaining to wildlife habitat have not been scheduled yet. FNRC discussed preparation for the meeting including a position paper and maps.

ACTION ITEMS:

KY: Find out when Act 250 meeting will be.

7. New members/Chair

FNRC discussed recruiting new members to FNRC. Several people were mentioned including Stan Button, Doug Lewis and Cari Wilson. Ky acknowledged that he has been the Chair of the FNRC since its inception and asked that another person consider this appointment. Cory said she would take it into consideration and let us know by the end of the year.

8. Next FNRC meeting will be on December 13, 2011 at 7:00pm at the offices of Alces Post & Beam.