

MEETING MINUTES

ALBANY COMMON LAND GOVERNANCE BOARD

Friday, February 10th, 2012, 5:30 pm

Members present: Rob Nadler, Jack Rose, Dick VanDyne, Cort Hansen, Josephine Howland, Steve Knox Alternate. Public; Don Johnson, Forest Land Improvement

Rob called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Jack made a motion to approve the minutes of the 1/31/12 meeting. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved 5-0.

Don Johnson showed copies of the work agreement between the Town and Forest Land Improvement (FLI). He is going to be meeting with Linda Comeau of Upper Saco Valley Land Trust (USVLT) to make sure that the Timber Management Plan will comply with USVLT's goals. The FLI work agreement will cover the extent of the first timber harvest on the town forest. Subsequent agreements will be required for the forest management plan, etc. The current work agreement will need to be signed by the Albany Selectman's meeting next week.

Rob asked for a motion to send this work agreement to the Selectmen for signature next week. The motion was approved 5-0.

Don mentioned the spring closure of Route 112 and indicated that the State Highway District Supervisor told him that the State could work with FLI when they started harvesting and move the closure far enough west as to not restrict truck traffic on the east end.

Rob brought to the Board the copy of the email from the Town Counsel regarding the language for the town article on a Conservation Commission for inclusion in the Town Report for the March Town meeting. Rob asked Board members if the Conservation Commission should be a 7 member board instead of a 5 member one. Steve mentioned that with a 7 member commission with 3 elected and 4 appointed, that the elected members could be outvoted. Josephine suggested that with a 7 member board have a quorum present becomes more difficult as the size of the board increases. The board members agreed that a 5 person conservation commission with 3 elected members would be best.

Jack made a motion that Rob speak directly to the Town Counsel in order to expedite the creation of the articles for the Town Warrant. Josephine seconded the motion a vote was made and the motion approved 5-0.

Rob listed his questions; 1) a 5 member board as agreed. 2) pending approval by the NH Legislature, articles to elect 3 members should be included. 3) revenue from all sales should go to the Albany Conservation Fund. 4) those funds will be controlled by the Town Treasurer but kept separate from the General Fund. He feels that the Town Counsel needs to clarify the paragraph regarding the revenue transfer from timber revenue to the special forest management fund and how it is to be disbursed.

Rob noted Jack's editing of the LGB report for the Town Report announcing the success and conclusion of the purchase of the Kennett property.

Steve brought up a conversation he had with Colleen McCormack regarding community gardening and agriculture. Colleen said that she'd be happy to discuss further with the LGB this use of the land. Steve said that he planned to talk with the NH Cooperative Extension Service representative regarding improvement ideas for the open fields for agricultural or haying use.

Jack had a copy of the agreement between the model airplane club and the Kennett Corporation. He read it aloud and suggested that we could use the same wording with the inclusion of language requiring the Town of Albany be listed as additionally insured.

Discussion focused on going forward with regularly scheduled meeting on the first Tuesday of each month due to the amount of planning work which will now be required to establish a management plan, etc for the Town Forest. It was agreed to have the next meeting on Tuesday March 6th at 5:30 pm. Subsequent meetings will be held on the same schedule.

Dick said that the forest revenue funds, if managed by the Albany Trustee of Trust Fund, might be best invested in bank CD's, etc. for best yield.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn, seconded and approved, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Cort Hansen, Board Secretary.