

Draft Minutes
Randolph Forest Commission
January 2, 2019

Members Present: John Scarinza, Laura Brockett

Alternates Present: David Willcox

Others Present: David Degruttola, Michele Cormier

The chairman opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. He asked David Willcox to sit for Walter Graff.

The Commission considered one invoice. It was from LandVest in the amount of \$944.65. It covered reimbursement for a review of the close-out on the past timber sale, a marking for this year's winter sale and a meeting with Chris Nelson (logger for the Brooks family) with regard to the right-of-way agreement between the Brooks and the RFC.

David Degruttola said that the agreement had been signed and the Commission's copy was ready for him to pick it up. He would bring it to the next Commission meeting.

David Degruttola reported that he had joined Haven Neal (Gorham Town Forester) to look at the 200 acres of land off of the Jimtown Road which Gorham may sell to Randolph as part of its project to acquire new land for its Town Forest and protect the whole Forest with a conservation restriction. As a result of the meeting with Haven Neal, David estimated that the timber value of the land would amount to roughly \$96,000, or \$480 per acre. He noted that there were, of course, other values to be considered. For instance, he said, there are some softwoods on the property and whenever softwoods are present, they present possibilities for improving wildlife habitats.

With regard to wildlife habitat, David also reported that on January 14th he will meet with John Linear and Brendan Prusik for the purpose of matching the terms used on the RCF to designate different types of trees with the terms used in the Dirt-to-Trees-to Wildlife project. Once the terminology is matched, the DTW project can be applied to the RCF.

Finally, David reported on the progress of the winter timber sale. It was going well, and one problem had been surmounted. That was the fact that beaver activity had flooded a logging road needed for access to the timbering site. They had reset some culverts which stopped the beaver activity temporarily. But, it was suggested when the time came for a close-out of the project, a more permanent solution might be considered because the road also accessed a good gravel bank, which could be useful for RCF management going forward.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by general consent at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Willcox
Acting Secretary

Posted at Town Hall on January 3, 2019