Wolcott Forest Stewardship Committee

Next public meeting on Thursday, June 12, 2025
7 pm – 8:30 pm

Attending: Gordon, Mike, Cate, Dave, Roger, Gabe
Online: Murph
Quorum: yes

Agenda

1. Call to order (7:05 pm)
2. Organizational actions
    a. Amendments to agenda
        i. none
    b. Approve minutes from last meeting (5/8)
        i. Moved: Dave
        ii. 2nd: Mike
            1. Passed unan.
3. Public comment
    a. none
4. Ongoing (7:10 pm)
    a. Update from Sinuosity, trail building
        i. Gabe is working to organize a regular crew to work Wednesday nights. They worked for a couple hours Wednesday night, clearing out pre-cut debris and moving lumber to multiple bridge sites. Sinuosity was still working, and were thankful for the help.
    b. Update from NRLT, Smith property
        i. Gordan summarized an email from Jack: The property is getting cleaned up, but not much else to report yet.
        ii. Committee members have walked the property and determined that a connector trail would be required through the neighbor's property, but they're not interested at this time. Dave said that there could be a right of way established

through Gabe's family's property, for maintenance and/or rec access.

c. Update, Westover property
    i. Gordon went to the meeting sponsored by Lamoille County Planning Commission. No conclusions yet. Selectboard Mike Paradee is looking for something robust to happen to the property, such as pavilions, moving the community garden, maybe campsites, such as Vermont Huts(?). Use is restricted, since it is conserved as flood plain. Any construction must be approved by FEMA. Lean-tos could be built on the ledges that would be above the flood zone. A frisbee golf course was also considered. Kurt B. voiced concerns about springs and residential water supplies in the lowlands. Gordon spoke about allowing access to the Town Forest trails and called out that the excavated area in the south of the property could be a good location for bike features.
d. Update, Sign painting project, WES kids
    i. Roger reported that this project was in progress, almost finished. He will pick up the finished signs before end of school year. From there they will be sealed and assembled. Looking to get a group of kids together (6^{th} graders?) to install them later in the summer.
e. Maintenance – proposed/planned/completed
    i. Work update from Dave
        1. Dave reported that he worked last Wednesday with two volunteers. They planted pollinators and began trail work around the field. He reported that the field needs to be mowed in order to keep the overgrowth in

check. Off of East Elmore there are still some honeysuckles to pull out (in Fall). Some water bars are needed along the cleared path to old telephone pole site where soil was removed (**ask Luke for a loose estimate; explore renting equipment for the job**)

a. **Roger will update the Ongoing Maintenance List and re-share with the group.**

f. Forest management

i. Update, site mapping

1. **Currently building a mapping crew, and coordinating efforts though Luke to get them trained and deployed.**

5. New business (8:15 pm)

a. Roger introduced a proposed Release Form/Waiver of Liability that he adapted for WFSC use. He said that it is important to protect the town from potential litigation when putting our volunteers to work. After a short discussion, **he agreed to present the draft to Linda Martin and get feedback.**

6. Adjourn (8:10 pm)