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Morristown Conservation Commission

June 18, 2015, 6:30 pm

TOWN OF MORRISTOWN

Attendance: Ron Stancliff, Richard Sargent, Jim Pease, Dave Stevens

Guest: Fran Sladyk

New Business

Town Forest Logging Contract – in referring to Brent's email Fran is in agreement that Doug needs to do what is described before a new contract is issued. He has an excavator and can fix the road now. Fran thought by 6/26 the work could be done. About ½ of the 40 acre hardwood lot is thinned. Not all of the lot has been marked. Fran would suggest expanding the cutting area 10 acres to allow for better cutting logistics and removal with the geographic lay of the land. He would also like to build a road that would allow Doug to run the skidder in a loop up thru the 40-50 acre lot giving better access. Log water bars would be installed. Doug is going to have to improve the Town Road/trail to get up to plantation 7c and he will have to put a new landing in. Fran was not sure if the logging truck could make it up the road.

The next contract should complete what cutting is not completed with contract #1. It would be easier to allow for summer cutting (when feasible) in future years if the contract did not expire July 1. The two plantations 7b & 7c could be cut starting this summer but there should be no entry to the hardwood area unless the ground is frozen. For 7c we should cut the white pine now and the red pine later given the current market prices. We should be able to get \$12/cord for hardwood firewood and pulp.

Fran will send a revised contract with this information.

Members Reports

Jim – LCPC sent an invasives poll, members were polled on their concerns with Ash borer, Japanese knotweed and honey suckle being of the most concern. The MCC is currently engaged with the Ash borer survey and has surveyed all town highways (75' left and right side of road). We have not engaged in any eradication or control efforts. Jim also mentioned that the installation of curbs on Munson and Harrell Avenues without drainage may cause problems.

Ron – VTrans has provided the trailhead access lot on Bridge Street to the Town. So we can go ahead with the trail once we get W&L permission to improve Clark Park.

Meeting Minutes

The May meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Old Business

No updates on the Clark Park agreement. The Lamoille River Paddlers group would like to know if a primitive campsite could be designated in the park. One of the islands might be the best location for the campsite. At the July meeting the discussion topic will be the park with a site visit following.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm

Respectively submitted, Jim Pease