

MINUTES

Community Forest Meeting – Special (Rescheduled March Meeting)

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

6:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Chris M., Morgan W., Emmett R., Yvan D.,
Vernon C.

Others: Richard T. (remote), Diana R., Gana C.

I. Call to Order: **6:00 PM**

II. Discussion/Action – Approval of Minutes from Thursday, January 21, 2021

Motion MW Second YD Action 4-0

III. Discussion/Action – Review of Present Membership and Terms

The Community Forest Committee shall consist of seven members who shall be appointed by the Select Board, following nomination by the Committee.

Updated Membership:

*One representative from Canaan Schools – **C. Masson 2020-2023**

*One representative from the Planning Board - **G. Fischer 2021-2024**

*One original member of the 2011-2012 Planning Com – **Y. Doyon 2021-2024**

*Two other residents with the time and interest to participate fully -

- **E. Reid - 2019-2022**

- **V. Crawford – 2020-2023 * Mentioned that we may**

need to find a replacement.

*Two ex-officio members shall participate but not vote

-Representative for the Select Board – **F. Sawicki**

-The Town Treasurer - **Noreen**

Planning Board Member **Gail Fischer**

Town of Canaan Resident Member **Emmett Reid**

Note: Morgan and Eugene stepped down. Gail Fischer (Planning Board) and Emmitt Reid (Resident) replaced them. See above.

Motion MW Second VC Action 4-0

IV. Discussion/Action – Discussion/Action – Election of Officers

1. Board Chair Chris M.
2. Treasurer Gail F.
3. Clerk/Secretary Chris M.

Motion VC Second YD Action 4-0

V. Approval of 2021-2022 Meeting Schedule

Motion MW Second YD Action 4-0

VI. Discussion/Action – Update on Financials (Morgan Wade) and Approval of Process for Expenditures and Signing of Warrants

Committee discussed the need to reaffirm that invoices of more than \$25 should have a warrant requiring signatures from two committee members. An email can be sent to all members and those that can get in first will sign and “reply all” that they have done or will do so. Community Forest expenses need to be approved by the Community Forest Committee. Warrants provide for a “paper trail” of this approval.

Morgan will provide a letter to the select board to this affect and Chris will bring to their next meeting.

Motion MW Second YD Action 4-0

VII. Discussion/Action – Update on Road Condition and Approval of Plan to Improve Area Near Sawmill for Better Parking and Pole Barn Construction

Motion _____ Second _____ Action Pass Over

Town Employee Richard Thibault was upset that Chris had a Canaan student run a scrapper up and down the road. Issues included rocks pulled up and berms on the sides of the road. Chris apologized and said he would attend the next select board meeting to discuss.

VIII. Discussion – Update on Electric Bills and Net Metering Agreement with OP Solar Project (see attached email)

Chris discussed discrepancies with the VEC and Green Lantern (OP Solar) bills and their recording of net metering credits. Chris will contact

VEC to learn more. At this point, the CCF electric bill is no longer part of the net metering program. This was discontinued in fall 2020. Our electric bills at this point should be for electricity use only and not for purchasing solar credits.

- IX. Discussion – Trail Map Review and Grants Received by the Canaan Naturally Connected Group.**

Diana and Gana discussed grants received by the Canaan Naturally Connected group that pertain to the Community Forest. There is presently \$5000 available to fix road at north end, build a kiosk for the trailhead, and put in a parking spot. Chris will work with the CNC to get these improvements made.

There are also funds for another community forum to survey interest in the CCF. The CNC group will work on getting this done.

- X. Discussion – Update on Use of Property by DAgnR Students and Approval to Stock Pond with Trout**

Chris requested using “syrup funds” to purchase a few trout to stock the pond as a “test” to see if they will survive. These fish will also be used for educational purposes by his class and the summer school program.

Motion MW Second YD Action 4-0

- XI. Other Business – Next Meeting Scheduled for May 20, 2021**

The PILOT was discussed. Morgan will prepare a letter to the select board indicating our intent to not pay the PILOT for the next 12 years (at least). The cost of the road around Daley’s will replace the PILOT over that time period. The PILOT can be reviewed again in 2032.

Adjournment - Motion CRM Second MW Action 4-0

Time 7:20 pm