Andrews Community Forest Committee

Regular Meeting

Minutes

January 30, 2022

6:00 to 7:30 PM

Richmond Town Center Meeting Room, 3rd Floor – 203 Bridge Street, Richmond, VT

Meeting may also be joined online or by phone

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87009322152?pwd=QnJLellPK0xJN3RxWjlvMEZGMC9uQT09

Meeting ID: 870 0932 2152
Passcode: 399802

Dial by your location
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A: Roll Call, Confirmation of Quorum and Appointment of minute taker (2 minutes)

Yes, we have a quorum

ACFC Members in attendance:

Daniel Schmidt, Nick Neverisky, Jim Monahan, Cecelia Danks, Amy Powers, Chase Rosenberg, Caitlin Littlefield, Melissa Wolaver, Jesse Crary

Members of the public in attendance:

Ian Stokes, Brad Elliott, Paul Hauf, Marcy Harding, ??

B: Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (1 minute)

Addition of review of forest management statement per Josh Arneson's request

From the email

>   (f) Every five years, grant recipients shall submit a self-certifying statement to the regional Forest Service Program Manager confirming that the property has not been sold or converted to nonforest uses or a use inconsistent with the purpose of the Community Forest Program.

C: Review and accept minutes of December 19 Meeting (5 minutes)

passed

D: Content Subcommittee Report (Nick and Jesse) (25 minutes)

- Public Engagement Agenda

- o Q&A before the breakout sessions? This would make sense in answering people's questions before the breakout rooms
- o What is the format for the discussion? What about people that have not been following the ACFC closely? Would having the Q&A first give these people enough background information to participate in the breakout group discussion?
- o Melissa recommended that one of the ACFC member facilitates the small group discussion
- o We could introduce a protocol for how to ask and answer questions, Chase and Jim had a lot of ideas for how to do this
- o Instead of multiple topic areas we could all have the same topic areas and every group gets the same group of topics
- o We should perhaps give more time for the breakout groups? It is currently at 20 minutes, but maybe it could be 30 instead?
- o We need to be out of the building at 8:00 so we'll need to have a hard stop at 7:50.
- o Need to think about transitions – from open house to welcome and power point. And from small group discussion to expert question time.
- o What are you excited about, what are you concerned about, what would you change?
  - ▪ These could be questions that would guide the small group discussion Is this too specific? Does the public need to be super informed to attend? We want to ask specific questions but we also want the topic to be broad enough that the public can participate.
- o Discussion of getting a quantifiable infographic
- o Chase, everyone gets a sheet of paper and they rate where they're at with all of the questions. This would happen at the end of the meeting
- o Cecelia raises the question of whether we want to quantify our answers. The point of the small group discussion could be that ACFC members are taking notes and writing down takeaway ideas. These ideas get incorporated into the final report, but there doesn't need to be a shareout in which the small groups present some type of unified vision or answer to specific questions.
- o Folks who join online should be able to join an online breakout group, which we could do on zoom
- o We can communicate that the most reliable way to participate is to join in person
  - ▪ There are ways to participate remotely but the only way to participate fully is to join in person
- Content to be Produced
- Content to be Blown Up for Display at Open House
- Technology Needs for Logistics Subcommittee

E: Logistics and Marketing Subcommittee Report (15 minutes)

- Confirmation of Location and Time for Public Engagement

Jim is going to see if we can start at 5:45 and the time would be from 5:45 to 7:45 with a hard leave at 8

- Discuss Marketing of Public Engagement – Message, Publications, Timing

  We're doing a TimesInk! ad. But how to do we have the public contribute questions in advance?

  Link to a form – Nick is going to set this up

  Discuss Technology Needs for Public Engagement

- Other

F: Materials Subcommittee Report (15 minutes)

- Development of List of Materials Production
- Other

G: Take Away Actions for Completion Prior to February Meeting (10 minutes)

- Request to Selectboard for Funds to Logistics, Marketing and Materials Production
  - Need to go to the selectboard to ask for money for food
    Total of $800 for maps and food, we're going to ask the selectboard for this

H: Follow Up Items from Last Meeting (10 minutes)

- Need to reflag trail corridor – Chase and Jesse
- Contact wetland specialist – Daniel
- Contact Arrowood to get any spatial data – Caitlin
- Finalization of Management Plan Revisions – Cecilia
- RCC Public Dialogue Update - Daniel

I: Public Comment (5 minutes)

Marcy Harding – Received a notice from Duncan about the ACFC meeting. On Duncan's email is said the start time was 5:30, but the agenda said 6. Some people were waiting around on zoom as of 5:30.

Paul Hauf – Consider how much time we have and are we trying to cram too much into the two hours that we have. Is concerned that we are not going to have enough time.

Perhaps the purpose of the meeting has changed. From a public share out of information to an information gathering and public input meeting. We've already had a lot of public input and it's worrisome that the people who show up will get the "last word" on decisions being made.

At some point the committee is going to have to make a decision without 100% of public support.

Brad Elliot – Don't sweat the refreshments. Maps – why can't we see a map that shows the proposed trails and the buffers surrounding the sensitive areas. It's not just the trail corridor width but the buffer zone surrounding the trail.

J: Scheduling of February ACFC Meeting (2 minutes)

** PLEASE NOTE – MATERIALS RELATED TO THESE AGENDA ITEMS (IF ANY) WILL BE POSTED AND AVAILABLE ON THE ANDREWS COMMUNITY FOREST WEBPAGE AT http://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-minutes/conservation-commission/richmond-town-forest/