

**Andrews Community Forest Committee**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**May 15, 2023**  
**6:00 to 8:00 PM**

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

MW minute taker

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

C: Review and accept minutes of April 24 Meeting (1 minute)

Motion to approve: DS, second JM

D: Review of Letters of Interest to Serve on ACFC (15 minutes)

We have received 3 additional letters of application for committee membership since our last meeting.

Bylaws: We have appointees from RCC: 2 seats. 1 appointed, 1 at large. RCC agreed to reappoint Caitlin, so Caitlin's position is not up for reconsideration. Same format for Trails Committee.

Jesse Crary will be stepping down from this committee after tonight's meeting, and trails position will open. Amy Powers is no longer seeking reappointment and Jim Monahan is also stepping down. Committee members expressed thanks to Jesse, Amy and Jim for the years of work they have done as members of the committee.

2 open seats, and 1 trails committee at large will need to be filled. Trails committee will recommend a new candidate to the ACFC or appoint someone to the trails seat who is already on the committee.

Ian Stokes, candidate for ACFC was present and answered questions regarding his views on the management plan, navigating his work with the Friends of Andrews Community Forest Group, and melding his personal viewpoint with our charge to balance recreation and conservation.

Jeanette Malone spoke in support of Ian and thinks he would be a valuable voice.

Executive session called by Jesse to dialog around open spots and the three letters of application we received from Ian Stokes, Julian Portilla, and Liana Schneidman. Executive session results: Caitlin is RCC recommendation and goes straight to Selectboard. CL moved to advance Nick to the Selectboard, Ian Stokes and Julian Portilla as candidates recommended for open positions. CD seconds; all in favor, none opposed.

We will solicit Trails Committee to put one person forward to ACFC and then to Select board. Jesse will communicate with Trails Committee. Selectboard is concurrently reviewing applications.

Chair: Nick volunteering to be chair. Jesse motions Amy seconds; All in favor. Nick will be the new Chair.

- E: Discussion and Review of Facilitator Report on Public Meeting Feedback, Revisions to Proposed Management Plan and Development of Trail Management Document (90 minutes)

JC: What's happened in the last 3 weeks: Conversations with Jay Furr, Selectboard member highlighted opportunity going forward. There is a real need to balance and to embrace equitable principles. More people need to feel included, for example, people who need a flat trail like small children. Selectboard has signaled that we need to address this. Work to be done on public feedback, and there are tweaks and a trail management document that needs to sit beside it. CL: Where are the trails for kids/accessible, or for foot track only, or beginner bike access: Spaghetti trails. Could be foot traffic. Upper section: Less chance of negative interaction if downhill could be Hemlock and there is signage creating culture of the trail. DS: There are two loops in Spaghetti right now, reduce to one and have great experience.

- G: Bird Habitat and Forestry Walk in Collaboration with RCC (5 min)

7 or 8 people are signed up. This Saturday 9-12pm. Birding and looking at patch cuts.

- K: Scheduling of Next ACFC Meeting (1 minutes)

Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Recommendations for management plan and trail management plan will be the focus of the meeting.