

Andrews Community Forest Committee

Regular Meeting

Minutes

October 25, 2022

5:30 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

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

Daniel Schmidt – taking minutes

Caitlin, Nick, Jesse, Chase, Daniel, Melissa, Cecilia, Jim, Amy

Members of the public: Nancy Zimny, Paul Hauf, Bard Hill, Betsy Hardy, Bob Low, Tyler Merritt

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

none

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

accepted

D: Consideration of draft Revised Management Plan (90 minutes)

Plan is to gather general feedback and to edit live

Amy is going to edit in real time

The main scope of work was to add the indigenous land acknowledgement and associated land use rights and governance. The previous document didn't have a pre-colonial history and Cecilia added the Native American history.

The other major scope of work was to add trail information based on the new Arrowwood/Sinuosity design. Tied the recreation section to use type, partnerships, and how the conservation easement to the present day. In general, we tried to update the trail portion so that it reflected current conditions.

We also improved organization, consistency and grammar. In the spirit of trying to make this a more readable and navigable document.

Fora is the plural of forum

Question of who has met 1:1 with community members who have engaged during public meetings or other forums. We will put this on an agenda for another meeting. It would be good for the

committee to know a little more about how these conversations happen and what the outcomes have been.

We should also add/acknowledge other individuals and organizations that we've engaged with. For example, the consultants we talked with about public facilitation. And the individuals and organizations that we involved in the indigenous land acknowledgement.

But we're not sure how "in the weeds" we should get. Should we just add individuals and organizations or should we also add what those individuals and organizations said and what they added to the management plan.

Ethan Tapper should look over the Timber Management sections. We will also share this updated draft with VLT for input.

Question regarding timeline for forest management plan. The plan needs to be updated at least every ten years and the county forester would be the person to lead this updating process.

10.2 Deleting "Given that. . ." sentence and clarifying the difference between the rules of the easement vs. the allowed activities based on consideration of the management plan and the ACF committee.

10.6 There would be value in stating why there is deviation between the concept map and the updated trail map. Noting that the concept map was not ground-truthed and was not meant to be followed exactly.

Cecilia to make updates on 10.6.

10.8 Need language that reflects the committee's perspective that the current trail network represents the extent to which trails will be created. Making clear that there is not a plan for any future trail development.

10.10 Question about the bullet about business. The subcommittee has done their best to do only organizational and readability edits, rather than a full-blown revision of the document. So there are parts of the current management plan that we may still have questions or concerns but those will have to wait for a later editing process.

Maps – Daniel to add Map F, which is the original Arrowwood/Sinuosity trail map. Caitlin will update the Trail Design Map and Daniel will replace that as Map C.

E: Discuss Public Engagement Process Timeline (ACFC Meeting with Facilitator, Facilitated Meeting with Community) (10 minutes)

Jim indicated that the facilitator was ready to talk with the committee at the November meeting. We'll formalize the meeting and set up the date.

F: Scheduling of Upcoming ACFC Meetings (November and December) (5 minutes)

Our next meeting will be November 28th

G: Public Comment (10 minutes)

Nancy Zimny – Comments on the revisions on the management plan can be sent to Jesse and he will distribute those to the committee.

**** 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/>**