

DRAFT  
**Duxbury Town Forest Committee Meeting Minutes**  
 September 24, 2018

<i>Town Forest Committee Members Present</i>	Kalev Freeman, Grahm Leitner, Monique McHenry, Matt Muir, Jesse Rufenacht
<i>Attendees</i>	Toni Muir
<i>Minutes Prepared By</i>	Jesse Rufenacht
<i>Call to Order</i>	The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Jesse R.
<i>Introductions</i>	Toni Muir introduced herself to the committee

**Changes to the Agenda**

<i>Discussion</i>	Removal of commentary from the Washington County Forester as he was unable to attend.
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**Public Comment**

<i>Discussion</i>	None
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**Washington County Town Forester**

<i>Discussion</i>	Grahm L. provided an update on Dan Singleton's potential involvement. He is unable to create a management plan for us but is happy to help guide the process and look things over occasionally.
<i>Conclusion</i>	Before he is able to assist us, it would be best if a management plan were created.

**Tree Stands and Trail Cameras**

<i>Discussion</i>	The committee is allowed to apply any restrictions and/or rules governing the use of tree stands.  Trail cameras are allowed unless the land is posted stating otherwise.
<i>Conclusions</i>	Grahm L. motioned to adopt the same rules that state forests have about the use of tree stands with the caveat that hunters must initially register their tree stands with the town clerk's office. Monique M. seconded the motion.

	There is no plan to post the land prohibiting the use of trail cameras.
<i>Actionables</i>	The adoption of the above guidelines regarding tree stands and trail cameras, as well as the registration of such, will be brought the selectboard for approval.

### **Brush Hogging**

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>The last time the fields at the end of the access road were brush hogged was three years ago.</p> <p>If the fields are to be brush hogged it is not imperative that it is done this season.</p> <p>General discussion had around the pros and cons of brush hogging a portion of the fields every 1-3 years.</p> <p>General discussion about the possibility of residents offering their services to do the brush hogging if approved.</p>
<i>Conclusion</i>	<p>If the land is to be brush hogged, it should be built into the forest management plan with reasons as to why. This must be approved by the Duxbury Land Trust.</p> <p>Kalev M. motions to make a plan to have the fields (or a portion thereof) brush hogged in 2019 and then every 2 years thereafter either as part of a forest management plan or separate from a forest management plan if one has not yet been created and/or implemented. Jesse R. seconds. This being contingent upon the approval of the Duxbury Land Trust.</p>

### **Town Forest Budget**

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>The committee is uncertain whether the current budget must be exhausted before the end of the fiscal year or if any unspent money carries over into the following year.</p> <p>If we need to spend some of our budget on a service, what is the process like for getting bids? Must we get multiple bids? Can someone on the board submit a bid? What is the selectboard's involvement?</p>
<i>Actionables</i>	<p>Jesse R. will look into whether the budget expires or not.</p> <p>Monique M. will look into the process for dealing with bids and spending</p>

	money from the budget.
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### Survey Results

<i>Discussion</i>	There were 22 surveys that were completed. 19 of the 22 stated that they would potentially use the town forest. The highest rated activity of interest is nature observation. The most common amount of money that people were willing to spend on the forest was \$1,000-\$10,000.
<i>Conclusion</i>	Although there were a large number of responses, the information gathered is of interest.
<i>Actionables</i>	<b>Matt M.</b> will get the survey results posted on the town forest website.

### Determine Next Steps

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Most urgent order of business remains creating a town forest management plan. This will be the focus of the next meeting.</p> <p>Next meeting will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of Forest Management Plan</li> <li>- Discussion of DTF markers for posting on trees (Grahm L.)</li> <li>- Confirmation of budget expiration (Jesse R.)</li> <li>- Information about the town's plans to implement a turnaround for the plow beyond the current chain and whether this would serve as parking in the summer months as well (Kalev F.)</li> </ul>
<i>Next Meeting</i>	<p>Date: Monday December 3 at 6pm.</p> <p>Location: Duxbury Town Garage.</p>
<i>Adjournment</i>	Monique M. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jesse R. seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm.