

**Town Forest Committee
Minutes
May 9, 2014**

Present: Sue Barnett, Paul Doucette, Shirley Smith, Bill Dakai, and Town Administrator Kim Newman

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM. Sue made a motion to approve the minutes from March 21, 2014. Paul seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Update on DCR Grant

Shirley reported that she had received a phone call from Amanda with the news that our application had reached the second tier. Although not an absolute guarantee, it was a very good indication that our application would be approved. The catch was that, because of the numerous important historical sites, they wanted us to have an archeological survey done as a condition of getting the grant. Amanda said that, if we do this, we could have our money in October.

Archeological Reconnaissance Survey

There was strong support for the survey from the Community Preservation Committee, the Historical Commission and the Historical Society. Shirley presented the Scope of Services and Cost Proposal from the Public Archeological Laboratory to the CPC and they voted unanimously to approve \$8,400 to cover the cost of the survey. It will be on the warrant for the June 25th Town Meeting.

Scope of Services

The Scope of Services includes 64 hours of field survey, 16 hours memorandum and site forms, 12 hours research, 8 hours technical graphics and maps, and 8 hours editing and typing for a total of 114 hours.

Tower Road Issue

Since the records as to whether or not Tower Road was discontinued 150 years ago are ambiguous and contradictory, it would be necessary to go to Town Meeting and have the road officially discontinued. Shirley said that, in the process of writing the warrant article, she had checked state law and learned that, if the road were within 500 yards from the boundary of another town, it would be necessary to notify that town and have the Planning Board hold a public hearing. Bill did the GPS coordinates and the distance from the Millville line to the proposed gates was only 316.9 yards. There was not time to have a hearing before the June 25th Town Meeting so this would have to wait until November.

Use of Recreational Trails and Associated Areas By-Law

This by-law would be on the June 25th Town Meeting and would be sponsored by the Zoning By-Law Committee. Shirley passed out copies of the final version.

Southwick Easement

Shirley informed the committee that if the revised easement were ready prior to May 21st, she would be able to get it on the warrant for the June 25th Town meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Smith