TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE
MINUTES

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: ED WHITE, CO-CHAIR; RON JARVIS, SECRETARY; JEFF CROSBY; FRED MULLEN, TREASURER; JACQUES BELANGER – JACQUES WAS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTMEN TO COMPLETE THE FIVE MEMBER TFC. THE SELECTMEN AND THE TFC MEMBERS FEEL THAT JACQUES’ KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE WILL BE AN ASSET TO THE TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE (TFC). WELCOME ABOARD JACQUES!

MEMBERS ABSENT: JOHN SWINDLEHURST II, CHAIRMAN – RECENTLY DECEASED. A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS OBSERVED OUT OF RESPECT FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE. THANK YOU JOHN.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 1, 2006 MEETING WERE ACCEPTED AS READ.


OLD BUSINESS: JACQUES BELANGER WHOSE COMPANY WAS HIRED ON FEBRUARY 1, 2006, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO CLOSE STARK PIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DECISION MADE BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FORESTS, SHOWED THE COMMITTEE A TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE PIT. A DISCUSSION ENSUED CONCERNING POSSIBLE METHODS OF RECLAIMING THE PIT.

NEW BUSINESS: ELECTIONS: ED WHITE WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN AND JEFF CROSBY WAS ELECTED VICE-CHAIRMAN.

ELEVATOR: SELECTMAN, LES HAMMOND WHO IS THE SELECTMEN’S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE TFC, ASKED THE TFC IF THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING MONEY FROM THE TREASURY TO A FUND TO INSTALL AN ELEVATOR IN THE LIBRARY. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, THE MEMBERS VOTED NOT TO CONTRIBUTE AS THEY FELT THAT THIS WAS TOO DISTANT A DEPARTURE FROM WHAT TOWN FOREST FUNDS WERE INTENDED.

HONORING JOHN SWINDLEHURST II: A MOTION WAS MADE TO NAME ONE OF THE TOWN FOREST LOTS IN HONOR OF JOHN. THE MOTION PASSED. AN EXISTING TOWN FOREST LOT OR A FUTURE ACQUISITION WILL BE NAMED IN HIS HONOR.
JOHN CONDE: THE TFC AGREED TO CONTINUE USING JOHN CONDE AS A FORESTER EVEN THOUGH ED WHITE HAS HAD PAST DEALINGS WITH MR. CONDE. JOHN HAS SHOWN THE COMMITTEE THAT HE IS REPUTABLE. THE TFC FEELS THERE IS NO REASON TO CHANGE FORESTERS. IN SUCH A SMALL COMMUNITY OF FORESTERS AND LOGGERS WHERE EVERYONE KNOWS EACH OTHER AND OFTEN USES EACH OTHER’S SERVICES, THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE OF HIRING A FORESTER WHO IS UNKNOWN TO ALL TFC MEMBERS.

TOWN FOREST ASSIGNMENTS: ED WHITE IS IN THE PROCESS OF ASSIGNING EACH TFC MEMBER A TOWN FOREST LOT TO OVERSEE AND BECOME FAMILIAR WITH. WHEN AN ISSUE ARISES CONCERNING A FOREST LOT, A TFC MEMBER WOULD ALREADY POSSESS A KNOWLEDGE OF THE HISTORY, BOUNDARIES AND TOPOGRAPHY OF THE LAND.

LIAisons: ED FELT THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR MEMBERS OF THE TFC TO BE LIAisons TO OTHER COMMITTEES IN TOWN. SOME TFC MEMBERS ARE ALREADY MEMBERS OF OTHER COMMITTEES SO THEY WILL BE THE LIAISON TO THAT GROUP.

IE: FRED MULLEN – DUNBARTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

RON JARVIS -  DUNBARTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

JEFF CROSBY -  DUNBARTON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

KTFCA APPOINTMENTS: FRED MULLEN REMINDED ED THAT AS CHAIR, HE (ED) AND THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION CHAIR HAVE TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE KUNCANOWET TOWN FOREST AND CONSERVATION AREA COMMITTEE.

CORRESPONDENCE: FLOWER ARRANGEMENT: EACH MEMBER OF THE TFC RECEIVED A THANK YOU NOTE FROM THE FAMILY OF JOHN SWINDLEHURST II.

ACTION ITEMS: NONE

MEETING ADJOURNED: APPROX. 9:00 PM

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2006, AT 7:30PM IN THE FIRE STATION

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: RONALD D. JARVIS, SECRETARY