

MORETOWN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING, JANUARY 4, 2024

Attendees: John Hoogenboom, Mike Brown, Chris Stephenson, Steve Robbins Don Wexler, Katelyn Liptak, John Schmeltzer

Meeting called to order at 5:19 pm

The meeting minutes of August 2023 unanimously approved.

Review, discussion, and comments on Draft Management Plan.

- ANR and VLT have reviewed the draft plan and provided comments to Mike and he has incorporated minor tweaks.
 - There is a new point person at VLT (name?)
- Discussion again of School District Ownership vs. Town Ownership of land.
 - Upon unification of HUUSD, only the school buildings themselves are shared with the district.
- Approximately 30 acres of the Town Forest property, generally located along South Hill Road, are not subject to any easements.
 - The line separating the portions with and without easement should be surveyed
- Hunting Safety Zones
 - General consensus that we favor ECO classrooms over hunting season and some language added and changes to clarify “Prohibited” Uses.
 - Expand hunting safety zone to protect school and ECO classrooms.
 - For clarity and ease of posting “No Hunting / Safety Zones” make lines straight across and remove small island within the forest.
- Remove redundant language regarding protecting deeryard.
- Added language to acknowledge GMP powerline management and language to acknowledge ECO Classrooms.

Next Steps

- Request and reach out for Public Comment!
 - Post draft plan to town website
 - Sent copies to all abutting landowners
 - Post notice and link to plan in Front Porch Forum
 - Recreation Committee to help spread the word
 - Post in MES Bulletin
- Discussion on how & when to accomplish above and where the public can send comments.
 - Mike suggested comments can be sent to his email address.
- Timing goal is to incorporate a “public” meeting as part of regularly scheduled Select Board meeting in April
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NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024 at 5:00 pm at the Municipal Office.