

Stockbridge Agricultural and Forestry Commission Meeting January 3, 2022 Minutes

Present

Agricultural and Forestry Commission	Guests
Mathieu Boudreau, chair Erik Rasmussen Lisa Bozzuto Shelby Marshall (Alternate) Abigail Fredsall (Alternate)	

- Matt called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- Matt made a motion to approve the meeting of Nov. 1. Motion approved unanimously
- **Discussion: CPA Funds/Stewardship Grants for Town Forests**
 - We can use stewardship grants as an additional source of funding that we are providing, in a proposal for CPA funding.
 - We want to find out about invasives on the properties and see if it makes sense to get grants to remove them.
 - Mike Buffoni is working with a forester on some properties around Averic Lake and on Stockbridge Mountain. We need to find out if the forester has done a stewardship plan, or if we should have it done.
 - We want to apply for Ice Glen and other properties.
 - For Ice Glen, our goal is to manage an old-growth forest. For some other properties, manage for logging as well as recreation, invasives, etc.
 - Shelby gave an overview of biological control information re: Emerald Ash Borer. There are probably not enough ash trees in Ice Glen to make it work. We'll look into it.
- **Update: Tree City USA**
 - Lisa has put together a list of what we need to submit an application.
 - Matt will go over it with Mark Faber to see what he thinks.
 - Eric raised concerns because of the time it takes to do the application, and our relevant town employees are already quite busy. So Eric wants to keep the work load off of them, and have the AFC do most of the work.
 - Lisa said that the designation is for 1 year. If we find that the application is too much trouble, we don't need to reapply.
 - Lisa said that the AFC can take an active role in tree planting, which is important for carbon capture. Tree City designation gives us access to seedlings to distribute.
 - Matt wants to collect seeds from Ice Glen to propagate. He has talked to someone at Harvard who thinks this is a good plan.
- **Bylaw change**
 - Chuck is working with the Select Board about preparing a warrant for Town Meeting, to change the number of voting members on the AFC to 5.
- **Adjournment** - Confirm next meeting date and time
 - Next meeting is Monday, February 7, at 6:30.
 - At 7:09 pm Matt made a motion to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Motions (passed)

none

To Do items

- Matt
 - Ask Mike Buffoni to come to a meeting, to discuss forest stewardship plans for the properties around Averic Lake and Stockbridge Mountain.
 - Talk to Mark Faber about the information we need for a Tree City application.
- Shelby
 - Talk to Friends of Gould Meadows about a forest stewardship plan