

# **Roosevelt Forest Commission**

## **September 28, 2016**

The Roosevelt Forest Commission held a regular meeting on September 28, 2016 in Council Chambers of Stratford Town Hall as per notice duly posted.

**Members Present:** Chairman R. David, B. Ford, C. Emerson, F. Bevacqua, E. Bitsco, J. Brown, P. Mariconda

**Also Present:** Chairwoman Tina Manus, **Guests:** Public Works Superintendent, C. Esposito, Director of Public Safety, L. Ciccarelli

**Call to Order:** Chairman David called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Manus made a motion to approve the minutes of August 24, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Old Business:**

**Ultra Marathon –** Ms. Manus requested clarification on the run from last month's agenda. A member stated it ran from 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. The signage wasn't too good and it started late, which affected other run commitments. Nonetheless, excited for future events.

The Rec. Department last weekend held a Roosevelt Forest Day. Ms. Manus praised the event. She mentioned an eco-outing type program that was there. It's run by a couple of teachers from Chapel school, and they're eager to expand the program. She said it seems like a good resource for the Commission. Additionally, she was impressed with David Wright's tour; the participants seemed delighted with the outcome.

Chad Esposito, Public Works Superintendent, updated the commissioners on the culvert. He talked with Tina Batoh, Conservation Administrator, and she said the dredging of the culvert would be costly, and entails a huge certification process from DEEP.

L. Ciccarelli, Director of Public Safety, discussed the culvert/beaver situation, and the environmental damage. Commissioners discussed the problems that are occurring now and will emerge if not addressed; (tree damage, swamp, residential flooding, pool/hunting ground for beavers, etc.) Commissioners agreed to get a professional service expert's opinion before any course of action will be taken. Chairman David will get the groups' name, which had been used before. He will email everyone, so we can direct this to the town to get the professional service. The minutes will be sent to Mr. Ciccarelli and we will contact the Barrister residents to inform them on what's happening.

**New Business:**

Chairman David inquired about an Eagle Scout project/Lean-to. Mr. Emerson was aware of this project, and said he has the scout's contact to move forward on this. He stated there are three (3) roofs to be replaced; it was already approved by Tina. The shingles will be donated by the town, but other materials will have to be purchased.

Members mentioned other repairs that are needed: handicap ramp, flag pole, restore podium (Chapel area), repair bridge (behind scout land.) Too many repairs for one Eagle Scout.

Trails are not marked well; Chairman David asked if any members could volunteer to mark trails. Members agreed Saturday, November 12, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. would be a good day for trail marking.

Chairman David said he received a great article, "Small Forests Making Money," from David Wright, IT. He will send it to the commissioners.

Members discussed, "managing our resources." Conversation evolved.

Chairman David announced there are now tables and chairs in the Nature Center. He mentioned it seems to be in pretty good shape, many groups have utilized it.

Mr. David said there is some vandalism near the parking area, a beam was snapped. Tina's been notified. Everything else seems to be okay.

Chairman David will email Mr. Ciccarelli the proposal that was set forth for security cameras.

Mr. Emerson said the Trailhead sign, off of Beaver Damn Road is finished.

Possible meeting change in November?

Seeing no other business to be discussed, Chairman David made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ford. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Laurell Barr**