

Nash Stream Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

May 17, 2014 Lancaster, N.H. 1:00 – 3:00

Nash Stream Citizens Advisory Committee Members Present:

John Lanier, Ted Burns, Norman Cloutier, Albert Cloutier, Wendell Lees, Candy Livingston, Tom Bushey, Kevin Evans, Steve Sabre, Dave Goulet.

Committee Member Not Present:

Rep. Rebecca Brown

Staff Members Present:

Clinton Savage, Maggie Machinist, Todd Caron, Ken Desmarais, Brad Simpkins, Bill Carpenter

Meeting Opening:

- Chairman John Lanier opened the meeting by having the room introduce themselves. Minutes from last year's meeting were read through with some minor changes being made and then approved. Ted Burns has now been seated on the committee as the Commissioner of DRED's appointee.
- Bill Carpenter asked the committee if they wanted to elect a vice chair. Citizens Advisory Committee member Ted Burns says yes seconded by Steve Sabre. Rebecca Brown was nominated for vice chair.
- There is still a vacant seat for an expert in outdoor recreation and tourism. One person is interested and available to take the vacant seat so far.

Camp License Program Update:

- License holder's new approval for five more years. If license holders fail to pay rent, the state can take it over after 30 days and the owner has 60 days to remove belongings.
- Maggie explained new firewood permit for camp owners which will be mailed out with their annual bill. The camp owners expressed frustration about lack of available wood

for them to gather. She also explained that we may cut trees for the camp owners to use as firewood because of lack of dead or down trees. The firewood quarantine was also explained as well as the Emerald Ash Borer (reason for the quarantine). Ted Burns wanted to know how to tell if the firewood was from Merrimack County if a vehicle was stopped. Maggie explained that the Rangers will patrol and will basically rely on the honesty of the person with the firewood.

- Someone from the public wanted to know if it was okay to bring firewood in during the winter when the Emerald Ash Borer isn't active. Maggie says no, all firewood is quarantined.
- Ken explained in greater detail the Emerald Ash Borer to the audience.

Management Plan Update:

- Ken explained how the Nash Stream Management Plan is being redone by editing the old plan. The updates are now being incorporated into the original plan from the revision plan. The Tech Team meetings and how they come up with any conclusions was explained.
- John Lanier told the public how he realized they were at the meeting to discuss ATV use, but was not going to get any conclusions at the meeting. He also told them that they should let the Advisory Committee know what they want.
- Tech Team time-line starts today
- The next Tech Team meeting is May 28th.
- (PAI) Person of affected interest was explained. Make e-mail list to be sent out.
- Chapters 1 and 2 will be updated first for the next Tech Team meeting.
- The following Tech Team meeting will be on June 25th and chapters 3 and 4 will be updated.
- Vision Statement will be looked at by Advisory Committee today to see if there are any suggestions or changes from the committee.
- July press release will be sent out to let public know what we are up to.
- August 13th chapter 5 will be updated.
- The next meeting is not scheduled yet, but chapter 6 will be updated
- September 17th is the next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting to discuss what the Tech Team has been doing.
- There will be North and South public listening sessions.
- Plan is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

- John Lanier will check schedule for the September 17th meeting. We may need to discuss and have feedback after each chapter.
- Citizens Advisory Committee member Dave Goulet wanted to know how he'll get information before meetings so they will have time to think it over.
- Edith Tucker made a suggestion to Ken about how to compile suggestions from the public.
- Bill Carpenter agreed with Edith and will enhance suggestion sheet.
- Committee member Ted Burns wanted to know if the plan is going to change much. Ken explained that there will be small changes and minor re-writes.
- Maggie explained how public feedback will not be ready by July.
- July 30th is scheduled to be the next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting in Lancaster starting at 6pm.
- Edith Tucker wanted to know if the plan could be amended for ATV's so the process could be quicker.
- Chairman John Lanier says no, it will be done once.
- A small discussion about ATV's started.
- Brad Simpkins came in late and was introduced at this point in the meeting.
- Ken says the Tech Team wants the new plan to be a 15 year plan and the public disagreed. A woman in the public told Ken that in the revision plan it stated that it was supposed to be 10 years. The Advisory Committee thought it also should be 10 years and 15 years was too long.
- Ken went over the revisions that have taken place so far.
- Harry Brown, the president of the North Country OHRV Coalition asked John Lanier if he could make a presentation about Ride The Wilds ATV Trails. He was allowed and made his testimony statement.

Forest Management and Trail Update

- Maggie spoke about forest management. She explained that a bid for a timber sale went out last year with a two year contract. The winning bidder will start the timber harvest in the winter of 2014/2015.
- The work that has been completed by Trout Unlimited on Nash Stream will continue and will not affect road usage. Ted Burns was interested in knowing if the work they have been doing is working. Maggie says yes. Research is happening and he wanted to know if he could get information somewhere.

- Clint Savage talked about trails. He said that snowmobile trails will not be affected by the timber harvest operation this coming winter. The West Side Road is under construction to fix water bars to control run-off on the ATV trail. This trail will be open on May 23rd, but the Kelsey trail may not be because it was still wet and soft.
- Edith Tucker asked Clint about the rubber style water bars and wanted to know if they were still in place. Clint said they were removed in some spots for ease of road grading purposes, but they were still being used in other areas.
- Advisory member Steve Sabre wanted to know if the field tour will be re-scheduled. Maggie said she expected it to be.
- Meeting adjourned and seconded by Steve Sabre at 3:00pm.