April 22, 2025
Town of Marlboro Conservation Commission Minutes

Spencer knickerbocker -Marlboro Nordic ski club

Malcom More -old oaks Committee
-land surveyor

Jenny ramsteader- old oaks stewardship Committee
Managed by conservation yet in current use, but not required to harvest

● Old Oaks Headwaters Stewardship Committee- conservation management plan due October to be eligible for current use (no timber harvest in this plan). Owned by Green Mt Conservancy, who would receive the tax break. Only 501c3 Conservation entity-owned land is eligible for *Conservation* centered management plan. Individually owned land can also be eligible for this type of current use, but the restrictions are stringent (must be steep, certain % wetland, specialty species)

- Jenny, trying to step back from chairing Old Oaks organization. Proposed just kind of sitting in on CC meetings as a sort of Joint Venture.
- OOHSC does trail stewardship
- Conservation Easement is held by both Vermont River Conservancy and Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. VRC - this is their first headwaters project. VHCB - state agency that provided half of the funds for the acquisition of this land.
- *Marlboro, VT "Top of the World"*
- Mike - We can provide an item line on the agenda that provides an opportunity for an UPDATE via OOH.
- OOHSC needs to write a conservation management plan to the state. They'll be modelling off the Deer Run conservation management plan in Dummerston. We can read it!
- Town Trail is a misnomer!!
- Part of South Pond Loop is actually designated as a Town Trail. A pent road is a public access road that is subject to gates and bars, but still publicly accessible.
- Jenny spoke to a tension between the goals and aims of use of the land - Ski club stewarding the land but doing some might say heavy handed infrastructure improvements versus the Green Mt. Conservancy not wanting to cut any trees. Conservation Commission can arbitrate or weigh in on this tension or at least take a stance on the goals and aims of the conservation management plan.

Jeremiah wallack - Treetopvideo@yahoo.com

- 200 acres AHMCC, sold by Adam Gleb and his wife. Pond is a “top feeder.” The “forest is the pond.”
- Logging taking place right up to property line, orange slashes marking trees right on trails.
- How does a logging contract of that scale get approved in the town? Does the town even have an opportunity to give input?
- Lindy - we should communicate with the planning commission regarding mechanisms that limit “bad logging”

-concerned about Ames hill logging
-full spectrum lights
Ahmcc-
Pond is a top feeder
The forest is the pond
More conservation around south pond
Ames hill board 2021-22 didn’t respond to concerns in logging project
Trees are still marked
Dangerous mess from logging
Can town bylaws have more say?
Limits on logging?
Requiring buffers?
Opportunities for invasives
Planning commission has more power than cc for making changes
Check other towns laws
More laws in place for logging activities
Notifying people?
List of approved loggers?

Have old Oakes Committee attend cc
Easement with vt river conservancy and vhcb (vermont housing and conservation board) - work both on housing and land conservation, provided half of the funding for old Oakes
Land owned green mountain conservancy
Vt conservancy’s first headwaters project - must have public access and conservation of waterways
-3000+ acre forest block

-small crew to tackle invasive plants on old Oakes
-cc can help with land management plan for the state, reading and reviewing
-will reference Dan doobie and deer run management plan

-6 car parking area on potash hill
-may 3rd trail day benching trail maintenance
-Nordic ski club will pay for some maintenance, drainage, beech saplings
-management plan due in October