

**Rines Forest Advisory Committee  
Monday, June 21, 2004  
7:00 PM – Town Hall**

**Town Council Chambers  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Henry Milburn, Tom Hinman, Lisa Judd, Jeff Steinman, Bob Waterhouse,  
Bill Richards, Sally Stockwell and Bob Heyner

**Council Liaison:** Bill Stiles, Steve Moriarty and Jeff Porter

**Absent:** Victor Otley, Jennifer West

**Others Present:** Bill Shane, Town Manager

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

**II. May 17, 2004 Meeting Minutes Review & Acceptance**

Minutes for May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted and approved by consensus.

**III. Review & Discussion of Mission Statement & Goals**

**Rines Forest Mission Statement**

The Cumberland Town Council holds that the Rines Forest property is a unique tract of land that shall remain forever in its undeveloped state. To this end, it is the collective responsibility of the community to protect the Forest's natural beauty, wildlife and varied eco-systems. Citizens and friends are encouraged to passively recreate within the property's boundaries while preserving its natural environment.

**Rines Forest Stewardship Principles**

1. The Town Council endorses the maintenance of the Forest to assure its present undeveloped forested state and will provide the human and fiscal resources necessary to do so.
2. A Forest Management Plan will be adopted and updated.
3. Within the scope of the management plan, areas determined to be environmentally sensitive and vulnerable shall receive specific attention.
4. A citizen based Advisory Committee shall report to the Town Council and provide an Annual Report which outlines the progress made toward maintaining the Rines Forest Stewardship Principles.
5. A network of trails including a new access from Range Road shall be maintained and improved.

6. Future acquisition for connectivity is encouraged and future planning shall be coordinated with the Town Lands and Conservation Commission.
7. Citizens are encouraged to passively recreate within the boundaries of the forest.
8. Educational use of the property for individuals or organizations shall be encouraged.
9. The use of motorized vehicles and camping shall not be permitted within the Forest.
10. An informational brochure outlining the property's environmental attributes, a map of trails and other related issues of interest will be published and ready for distribution by the spring of 2005.

### **Points for Future Board Policies**

- Lands for Maine Future Funding explored
- Snowmobiling on existing and approved trail network
- Camping by permit shall be allowed without fires
- Motorized and Mechanized vehicles include, but are not limited to, dirt bikes, ATV's, motorcycles and mountain bikes.

#### **IV. Setting the Course**

##### **a. Re-Focus on Priorities**

- i. **3 2 Items** the group wished to accomplish over the next 3 months.

##### **1. Items Related Generally to the Trails and Entrance**

- Light impact trail making – paint or blaze with paint
- Develop and lay out a new footpath to serve as the primary entrance from Range Rd.
- Link or connect the new primary entrance trail to the existing interior trails
- Determine the extent (if any) of any enhancements to the trail system or improvements in the conditions of the existing trails
- Define trail systems and parking policy
- Develop new entrance with trail connector to established trails
- Identify new trails needed to ensure safe & enjoyable public use of the property
- Trail system/initial upgrades completed by end of 2004
- Public entrance to Rines Forest finalized
- Erect kiosk at trailhead with information & map of forest trails
- Achieve adequate access off Range Road
- Minimize unnatural trails
- Trail Connection

## **2. Items Generally related to the Use & Management Plan**

- Submit mission statement, principles and Forest Management Plan by October 1, 2004 to the Council for public comment adoption or rejection
- Complete mission & stewardship principles & policy principles
- Develop a management plan for the next 5-10 years to include forestry management, oversight & supervision, measurement of impacts, acquisition of trail easements from abutting owners, etc.
- Prepare a draft general management plan
- Preserve Natural State
- Use Policy

## **Others Items Listed**

- To determine and enact a plan of perpetuity or conservation easement within our own resources
- Ensure property remains for its intended use
- Discussion with Dale Rines
- Adopt forest goals #1-8 / add to #6 “except snowmobiles on marked existing trails”
- Establish a firm list of non-permitted uses of the Rine’s forest
- Begin work on a forest management plan
- Frame and adopt by consensus a forest management plan, perhaps a subcommittee approach to craft component parts would expedite the process
- Define vision for the property: what do we want the property to look like in 25-50 years
- Initiate & develop forest management plan
- Firm layout recommendation for new access off Ridge Road and trail connection to any existing trail preparatory for council approval
- Asked to resolve mission, principles and facility use plan by a simple consensus building model e.g. nominal group technique
- Rines Property vision mission statement completed & rules for Rines: no atv’s, no dirt bikes, no open fires
- Legal paper size document: vision statement & rules & written recommendations to park on Idlewood Road for safety reasons on the format. Existing Rines map on the back, copies to be made available at the Town Hall
- Publicity about the site

### **b. Summer Projects – Tabled until Next Meeting**

## **V. Other Business**

### **a. Next Meeting Dates- July 19**

### **b. Sally will try to get a copy of the Plan for Blackstrap Road and Pratt’s Brook Park**

## **VI. Adjournment- 8:57 PM**