

Carroll County Lands Advisory Committee Meeting
County Administration Building
March 2, 2018

Present: Steve Knox, Chairman; Sandy Brocaar; Dale Drew; Susan Gaudette, Recording Secretary;

Others present: Representative Ed Comeau

Quorum present? Yes

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 by Chair Steve Knox.

Minutes:

Dale Drew made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 9th meeting. Sandy Brocaar seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Subcommittee updates:

- Non motorized trails – still working to finalize the presentation.
- Agricultural Learning Center – At the request of Steve Knox, his notes are added to the record.

“Last Friday the County Lands Advisory committee visited the Joppa Hill Farm in Bedford, NH. The farm is an educational/learning center, which is comprised of 35 acres. The land is owned by the town, and has given the farm a 30 year lease, with 4, five year extensions. There is a big farm building on the property, with extensive fields.

Annette Handy is a part-time paid director of the farm, working a 25 hour week, but volunteers more hours. She has a small volunteer staff.

The farm gets no funding from the town and relies on grants and donations. It leases out garden spots 10” X 20” for \$50 a growing season. For an extra charge, you can keep the lot year round. There is growing interest in garden plots. Birthday parties at the farm are becoming popular, for which there is a charge.

There is livestock on the farm, and fields are leased out to local farmers. Annette is hoping to get into livestock classes, which will not include slaughtering.

There is also a trail network that starts at the farm.”

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The committee discussed the Agricultural Educational Center in Sullivan County and agreed it would be worth visiting.

Action item – Steve Knox will schedule a visit to the Agricultural Educational Center in Sullivan County.

Listening Sessions Matrix:

The committee reviewed the matrix.

The committee spent a considerable amount of time discussing the NH Charitable Foundation grant and the need for a feasibility study. Where/if anywhere do we need to utilize a feasibility study? What research can we do on our own? Do we have the time to dedicate?

Adjourn:

Dale Drew made a motion to adjourn. Sandy Brocaar seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:08.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Gaudette, Recording Secretary