

Meeting opened at 11:00am**Forest Committee members present:**

- Dana Rowe
- Doug Doty
- Alison Polido

Select Board member present:

- Rich Wallner

Issues Discussed:

1. Ali reviewed the points discussed with AVIS land manager David Dargie by phone on 3/27/24
 - a. Rule enforcement
 - i. Not sure if you need by-laws
 - ii. Police involvement only if other illegal activity
 - iii. No real enforcement, just posting (ex: dogs on leash)
 - iv. Have sent out lawyer written cease & desist letters on occasion, but have never had to take anyone to court
 - b. Hours of Operation – He recommends Dawn-to-Dusk
 - c. Trash receptacles - AVIS does pack-in/pack-out - no receptacles
 - d. Hunting program – Handled by group of Andover hunters
 - i. Bow hunting only, from tree-stands only
 - ii. Need to prove adequate ability by hitting a 6” target at 50’ (unsure of exact parameters, but he thinks it is around this). Goal is to ensure animals are killed and not injured and roaming the forest
 - iii. Written permission needed from group
 - iv. They do limit # of hunters allowed on town of Andover/AVIS lands
 - e. Buffer zones -
 - i. Dave has personally laid out new trails, no rule about buffer zone
 - ii. Goal is minimum 50’, goal 200’ away from private property, but depends on thickness of brush and visibility
 - f. AVIS uses wardens/volunteers to maintain area
 - i. Someone nearby who uses the area often, put them in charge of low-impact maintenance
 - ii. Can call for larger maintenance
 - iii. Volunteers given a lot of range, don’t have to call for anything
 - iv. Wardens work with Boy Scouts - build boardwalks, AVIS pays for supplies, Boy Scouts go to Conservation for permission
2. Dog requirements discussed
 - a. By-law states that dogs must be leashed or under full owner-control at all times
3. Rich discussed possible ways to notify public of upcoming meeting on 4/24 at 6:30pm
 - a. Notice in the Transcript
 - b. Posting on the Community Connection social media page
 - c. Posting on the Swan Pond Association site

- d. Mail notices to direct abutters
 - i. Need to obtain comprehensive list of abutters from the town clerk or assessor
4. Specific feedback to be given to Horsley Witten
 - a. Agenda order – Forest Committee to speak first and make introductions
 - b. Inclusion of FAQs embedded at the end of the presentation
 - c. Request for draft of presentation ahead of time
 - d. Request handouts be available at presentation
5. Request Norcam presence for public meeting on 4/24

Future Actions:

1. Reach out to Hannah to discuss meeting agenda and inclusion of FAQs (Ali)
2. Draft a press release for the Transcript, Community Connection page, and Swan Pond Association page (Ali)
3. Reach out to Norcam to request broadcast of public meeting (Rich)
4. Ask Town Clerk for list of abutters in order to send out individual notifications of public meeting by mail (Dana)

Next Meeting Scheduled: TBD

Meeting Adjournment at 11:35am

Respectfully Submitted
Alison Polido, Secretary