

**Minutes**  
**Forest and Parks Commission**  
**April 7, 2025**  
**6:00 p.m. at the Chelsea Public Library**

Present: Susan Elder, Kate Willard, Jen Chase, Lizzy Amber, Peter Amber, Andy Pomerantz  
and via Zoom: Marty Gratz.

1. Minutes of December 2, 2024, February 3, 2025 and March 3, 2025 were approved as submitted.
2. Town Forest. Sean Ogle from the Upper Valley Trail Alliance explained the scope of work that his agency could do to help with creation of trails at the Town forest once logging has been completed. He can help with assessment, GIS mapping, Planning, funding source identification, and permitting. Russell Hershel of UVTA can also help with advice and ideas. A preliminary walk through the forest will be scheduled and advertised so anyone can join in. Sean can also help with discussions with private landowners on lands adjoining town lands for possible trail use. Additional maps and deeds concerning the creation of the town forest were reviewed. Susan reported that two of the three towns contacted have separate accounts for town forest tree harvesting and those funds do not go into the general town fund. This was information promised to the selectboard as to what other Vermont towns handle tree harvesting funds. Susan will continue to contact more towns for additional feedback.
3. Tree Grants. Both tree grants have now been granted. The Commission will work with Tierney to provide the grantors with necessary insurance forms and the creation of an RFP, if needed. Jen will draft a letter to the grantors to clarify RFP necessity and timing of work completion.
4. A motion was made and accepted that all final letters, contracts, materials concerning grant proposals, RFPs, and written submissions to the selectboard on behalf of the Commission needs to be sent to all members of the Commission for prior approval before final submission.
5. Susan is working on submitting the end of year report for the pollinator funds. Benches, deer protection and additional shrubs all need to be done before May 24, 2025. The report deadline is May 24th. Marty will send Susan any photos she may have for the report.
6. Adjourn at 7:30.