

Waterford Selectboard ATV Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday, August 17, 2023 @ 6 pm
Davies Library

Committee Members in Attendance: Mike Barrett, Sue Hayes, Gerard Jones, Jennifer Smith, Andre Gingue (Howard Remick absent)

Interested parties in Attendance: Jeremy Goetz, John Smith, Helen Pike, Sukey Watson-Thomas, Tom Thomas, Warner Hodgdon

Mike Barrett called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Attendees introduced themselves and stated their initial position on ATVs.

Development of Town Survey to gage interest in changing current ATV policy:

- The Planning Commission has developed a survey that will go out to tax bill addresses soon. Discussed pros and cons of combining our survey with theirs. Pros – less cost, not bothering town residents twice. Cons – to get more detailed information regarding ATVs and emphasize the issue it should be a stand alone survey. The majority favored a separate survey.
- Who should the survey be sent to? Property owners or just Waterford registered voters. The majority favored sending the survey to registered voters.

Discussion/Concerns:

- Enforcement – the current Waterford ATV ban on all but some Class 4 roads is not enforced sufficiently. If we allow ATV use on additional roads how will all of the state motor vehicle requirements be enforced? (i.e., helmet, registration, etc...)
- If additional use is ultimately authorized, could it be limited to only Waterford residents? This might require the purchase of a sticker (that could generate some revenue, possibly put toward more enforcement?)
- Gerard Jones had prepared a sample questionnaire in advance of the meeting. It was comprehensive. Attendees were able to discuss many of the questions and ask for some edits prior to the next meeting of the Subcommittee.
- When should the survey be sent out? It was agreed that post-Labor Day would be the best time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Next Meeting – Selectboard Working Meeting on Monday, August 28th at the Davies Library at 6:00 PM. The goal of this meeting will be to finalize the survey in order to send it out after Labor Day.