

Town of Orange
Planning Commission Minutes

July 9, 2025

Meeting in Town Hall

1. Call Planning Commission meeting to order at 4:35 P.M. Members present were Eric Holmgren, Ray Rossi and Lee Cattaneo. Also present was Michael Raboin Jr.
2. Opportunity for public comment/questions. Michael Raboin asked that there be a time set for additional public comment on the Town Forest management Plan at the next Planning Commission meeting.
3. Approve the minutes of the June 11, 2025, Planning Commission meeting. Ray made the motion to approve, Eric seconded, and the minutes were adopted unanimously.
4. Set date and time for public meeting on final draft of Route 302 Scoping Study. The public meeting will be September 10th, time to be determined.
5. Set date, time and agenda for next meeting. The meeting will be on August 13, 2025. The final draft Town Forest Management Plan will be on the agenda. A recess was called at 4:41 P.M. to reconvene at 5:00.
6. **5:00 P.M.** Public presentation of final draft Town Forest Management Plan. In addition to those persons listed above, nine others joined the meeting (see attached list). Aj Follensbee, County Forester, presented a slide show on the history of the parcel including when last harvested. The presentation also included details on each separate stand, existing conditions and recommendations for tree management. Recreational uses of the Town Forest were noted, but any improvements would be addressed in a separate recreation plan. There were questions from the public concerning whether or not the tree harvesting would be revenue neutral (it would be) and what time of the year any tree work would be performed relating to other activities in the forest. Aj presented a chart contained in the plan which indicated the

times that the work would be done, that the Town Selectboard would be responsible for authorizing the work and that the County Forester would provide onsite assistance.

There was additional discussion not specific to the provisions of the plan and there were no issues identified which would require plan revision prior to a final draft presentation to be held at the August 13th Planning Commission meeting, at which time there will be an opportunity for additional public comment. A link to the plan will be placed on the Town website.

7. Adjourned Planning Commission meeting at 5:55 P.M.