

Westmoreland Conservation Commission  
Minutes of April 7, 2016 meeting

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am.

Present: Marshall Patmos, John Lukin, Perry Sawyer, Dick Schmidt

Minutes of the March 3 meeting were approved.

Reference our possible public sessions, Marshall contacted Steve Roberge, Extension County Forester and he's willing to do an invasive plant session at the County Farm. It seems to be better held when the leaves are all out to facilitate identification. We can let him know. We will have to firm up plans for other sessions including water quality and land conservation.

We will continue to pursue land conservation issues, identification, mapping and education efforts.

We briefly reviewed our 2012 Conservation Plan that was the result of 2 public meetings with the input of 120 residents who attended the sessions, a survey of all residents and a number of smaller group planning and training meetings over a period of several years. The Planning Board is going to include a one page synopsis in the updated Master Plan and the full Conservation Plan in the appendix. The Planning Board is holding a public meeting on April 18 at 6:30 to solicit any final comments or suggestions to the Master Plan before adopting it. Commission members with questions or suggestions should contact Marshall and/or plan to attend the hearing.

The Commission reviewed a copy of a March 29, 2016 letter from the NH Department of Environmental Services to road agent Gary Hudson. It concerned a complaint of a possible violation by the town highway department of dredging in a jurisdictional wetland without a proper permit or authorization from DES.

The alleged violation occurred adjacent to Partridge Brook in the area by the Chesterfield/Westmoreland town line next to the Spofford Road. DES will inspect the site and the town has 20 days to respond to the alleged violation.

The Commission is again sponsoring a roadside cleanup day on April 23 spearheaded by the Westmoreland Lions Club. The Lions Club does a stellar job organizing the event that involves dozens of volunteers collecting hundreds of bags of roadside litter over the years.

It was decided for now to continue meeting at 8:30 AM on the first Thursday of the month.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2016 at 8:30 AM at the town hall

Submitted by Marshall Patmos