Westmoreland Conservation Commission Meeting July 13, 2023 (unapproved minutes)

Present: Marshall Patmos, Perry Sawyer, Jon Lounsbury, April Ferguson, Doug Oatley

Minutes of the June 8, meeting approved with one correction.

There was a brief discussion of the recent heavy rainfall and the partial washouts of some local roads. The Commission was contacted by some residents concerning the flooding at the construction site of the new fire station and its impact. According to the Selectboard there was no reason to be concerned as the water was controlled and planned drainage correction was made.

The Commission voted to contact the NH Department of Environmental Services in reference to Wetlands Permit # 2020-03040 concerning the wetland permit site of the proposed fire station. The permit provides 10 general condition guidelines and 39 specific guidelines. We will inquire if any site visits have been done by the Department and any concerns there might be.

The Commission continues to be concerned about biosolid composting material on local farmland and concerns of possible Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFA'S) "forever chemicals" in the material. The Commission will continue to search for and review National and State information to determine if there is action we should pursue on behalf of the town.

Jon and or April will contact the Old Home Day committee for details on when and where to set up our exhibit. Jon prepared a draft Commission information and contact card to pass out which we will review and refine at our next meeting. We plan to display information including maps on topics including natural resources, land conservation and management, wetland/water issues. Time will be spent at our August 10 meeting reviewing and preparing material to display.

There was a brief discussion of potential flooding of Mill brook from its source at Mill Pond off Rte 63 in Spofford. Not much to be done locally but perhaps to keep watch on the condition.

Our 2011 Conservation Plan has been shared with the Town Master Plan Revision committee of which Marshall, April and Jon are members.

We spent considerable time reviewing/sorting/discarding/filing the abundant resource information we have in the Commission file cabinet at the town hall and tentatively set up some preliminary files to sort through again.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for August 10,2023 at 7 pm.

Submitted by Marshall Patmos