

Westmoreland Conservation Commission meeting  
July 14, 2022 (unapproved minutes)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

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

Minutes of the May 26 and June 2 meetings were approved

There was a discussion of the environmental issues concerning the fire station. We haven't received updates from the selectboard but a communication from Steve Horton informed us that the old station has been examined according to OSHA regulations for hazardous material and just a small amount of asbestos was found and that further examination of the land under the station will be done once the old building has been removed. He said he will keep us informed of progress.

The Commission feels that a joint session with the Selectboard, fire station committee and Steve Horton to review progress and plans would be beneficial for all.

There are still concerns as far as the Commission's liability per NHRSA-36-A should there be hazardous contamination following construction of a new fire station for not fulfilling our State mandated responsibilities and due diligence in addressing the issues in a prudent, thorough manner. We will be contacting the NH Municipal Association, NH Association of Conservation Commissions, NH Department of Environmental Services, and the New England Environmental Protection Service for information on this and other issues.

Perry reported that the Wantastiquet Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Rivers Commission is planning to have an October informational field session with the members of the subcommittee and others. Cheshire County Farm is being considered as a site for the session.

Report of building a large berm of soil close to a 2<sup>nd</sup> order stream on the Larkin property on London Crossroad and Route 12. Last permit issued for any work on the property was 2012. Marshall will follow through on the issue.

There was a discussion of record keeping and filing of the volume of information that the Commission is involved in over time. April and Marshall will get together (and anyone else interested) to get the process started. The process will be time consuming but worth the effort.

The Monadnock Conservancy has notified the Commission that a landowner is interested in putting a conservation easement on about 48 acres of land in the area of Rte 63. They will send specific information and maps to us as they have it worked out. The Commission has a Conservation account that we can use (as we have in the past) to contribute a portion to retaining the easement. Typically, funds to obtain a conservation easement come from a variety of sources including federal and/or state funds, grants, and donations.

The Commission decided to schedule a meeting July 28 at 7 to further consider some of the issues of contact, filing information, etc. In addition to our regularly scheduled meeting Thursday Aug 11 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm

Respectfully submitted, Marshall Patmos