

Westmoreland Conservation Commission Meeting  
March 3, 2022 (unapproved minutes)

Present: Marshall Patmos (Chair), April Ferguson, Jeanette Hubert, Jean Rudolf, Dick Schmidt, Douglas Oatley (guest), John Lounsbury (guest)

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 AM.

April made a motion to approve our draft February meeting minutes, seconded by Jean, and approved by all members.

Marshall moved to ask the Selectboard to appoint John Lounsbury as a Conservation Commission member and, as that would give us a full seven members, to ask for the appointment of Douglas Oatley as an alternate member. Jean seconded the motion and it was then approved by all members.

Marshall discussed recent communications regarding low-income/affordable housing that will probably be addressed in a proposed grant from Southwest Regional Planning Commission. The grant from PLANNH is being proposed to the Planning Board and will be discussed at their March 21 meeting. Marshall is planning on attending and invites any other members to attend. This concept may reduce lot size or increase the number of homes on a lot. Attendees discussed concerns relative to our environment, rural character, and Master Plan. Accessory dwellings were discussed, noting that it will be voted upon at the March 9 town meeting.

Regarding the rail trail, Mike Kowalczyk, rail trail director, will make a presentation at the March 17 Selectboard meeting, including topics such as improvements, need for grants, and need for new members on the rail trail committee. Marshall will attend tonight's Selectboard meeting reference our involvement in the rail trail group and the letter and responses we got from our mailing to 54 landowners with ownership along the trail.

On the proposed fire station, it was noted that we still don't have a complete understanding of the disposal of contaminated waters produced from cleaning of equipment, clothing and vehicles. The issues of cost and location was also discussed. The proposed fire station will be addressed by a vote at the March 9 town meeting.

The annual roadside litter cleanup will be held on Saturday, April 23, and may be extended to subsequent days. Jon mention that he might be willing to help and Andy Mack is also interested in event. A formal distribution of bags and signup, possible snacks available and maybe prizes for the more productive cleanup volunteers was discussed. We have to get this organized soon.

At 10:06 AM Jeanette moved to adjourn, seconded by April, all in favor.

The next WCC meeting will be held at 8:30 AM on Thursday, April 7, 2022, at Town Hall.

Submitted by Richard Schmidt