Westmoreland Conservation Commission Meeting May 6, 2021

Meeting called to order 8:35 am

Present: Marshall Patmos, April Ferguson, Perry Sawyer, Jeanette Hubert, Jean Rudolph, Guest Dan Shelley
Minutes of our April 1 meeting were approved.

Dan Shelley met with us as a member of the Cheshire Rail Tail North advisory committee. The Rail Trail is owned and officially managed by the NH Bureau of Trails. Dan and Marshall (representing the Commission) have been participating in the group. Dan is very familiar with the trail which will be needing some maintenance, repairs, signage, access improvement, etc. There might be some public funding or grants available and private donations might be sought. The North Trail runs from Keene through Surry, Westmoreland, Walpole up to Bellows Falls. The Commission will be sending a note to landowners abutting the trail as to the activities of the advisory group and perhaps solicit their participation if they are interested. Perry, Jeanette and Marshall have compiled a list of 65 property owners along the trail in Westmoreland. Hopefully by the next meeting we will have a couple draft letters to review for sending to the landowners about the work of the group.

Concerning the issue of a new fire station, a wetlands and dredge and fill permit from the state has still not been issued for the station. The issue of the disposal of contaminated material washed off of equipment and clothing doesn't seem to have been addressed. The Commission will contact the state again for guidelines. Contacting the selectmen concerning the issue is suggested.

Roadside cleanup has been organized on an informal basis this year with school involvement, on facebook and with a signup sheet at the town hall. About a dozen folks have signed up with about 50 bags distributed. No final reports yet but hope to have the information soon so we can report to NH Beautiful.

Meeting was adjourned at 10 am. Next meeting is scheduled for June 3 at 8:30

Submitted by Marshall Patmos