

Westmoreland Conservation Commission  
November 7, 2019 meeting minutes (unapproved)

Present: Marshall Patmos, Perry Sawyer, Jean Rudolph (alternate), Mary Bradley, Jeanette Hubert  
Frank Hunter (guest)

Meeting was called to order at 8:35 am. Minutes of the October 3, 2019 meeting were approved as submitted,

Our budget request for 2020 is due this month. With no extraordinary plans for extra activities it was suggested to submit a budget request of \$650- the same as this year.

As we expand some of our efforts we may have to request additional funds in the future. A suggestion was made that maybe we could request an increase in the % of current-use penalty that would be allocated to our Conservation fund. Currently 50% of the penalty is put into the fund for conservation purposes in town. Perhaps a conservation endowment fund or other vehicle where people could donate to further land conservation in Westmoreland.

Renewing our land conservation information outreach effort is important. Contacting landowners with additional information and perhaps more public sessions.

Marshall found that the state "Permit for Notification for wetlands" process differs from the "Shoreland Permit for Notification" and is the reason the Commission did not get a chance or notification to review plans for construction activity along the river off Ferry rd.

The fire department has requested that we examine the new fire station site with them concerning any wetland issues that might be there.

Frank Hunter chair of the former town agricultural advisory committee presented information regarding farm friendly issues and wonders if this might be something the Commission would be interested in. He passed out some material concerning the issue. Those present felt it important that we get involved and find how Westmoreland measures up. A directory of town agricultural enterprises would be of interest. a variety of tax abatements, and a review of state and town regulations that impact agricultural activities are ideas expressed by those present , in addition to efforts for a Conservation Easement on County property. The Commission will discuss these issues at future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 am. Next meeting is scheduled for January 2, 2020 at 8:30 am

Submitted by Marshall Patmos