

The Westmoreland Recreation Trail Committee met on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 1pm at the Westmoreland town hall.

Present were members Susie Harris, Alan Bell, Dan Shelley, & Bruce Clement. Also, present was Paul Steblein.

Bruce called the meeting to order at 1pm.

He introduced Paul Steblein who lives on Esty Road and is interested in being of assistance to the trail committee.

Paul has a strong background in natural resource science & management with the US Geological Survey.

He is currently a volunteer with the Nature Conservancy helping to coordinate volunteer work in the Warwick Preserve here in town.

He has extensive experience in grant writing and offered his help in identifying potential sources of grant money for trail work and assisting in writing proposals for those grants. We all happily & gratefully accepted his offer of assistance and look forward to working with him.

We then discussed our plan of work (POW) for 2026.

We agreed to the following POW:

1. Repair the culvert & fill the gully located about 1/2 mile north of the "crusher road".
2. Add a 6" finish grade of Surpac to the section of the trail between London Road & Mt. Gilboa Road.
3. Repair the small culvert & gully just south of the Recycling Center
4. Continue other maintenance & repair work as necessary such as mowing vegetation, raking & grading the trail surface, removing any obstacles such as trees & branches from the trail, and keeping the drainage ditches clear of debris.

We agreed to write & submit a grant proposal to the NH GIA program for funds to complete items 1 & 2.

Item 1: Bruce shared the background information he had gathered. Jeff Watson looked at the photos Bruce had sent every one of the culverts north of the crusher road. Jeff estimates that it will take about 80-90 yards of coarse "riprap" material to fill the gully. A mid-size excavator will be needed to help repair the culvert & to place the riprap material.

Bruce spoke with Zane White of White Construction on Rt 12 in Surry. He can provide the riprap material at a cost of \$250/8yd load.

He also has a large excavator that we might be able to use. Dan & Bruce will follow up with Zane to work out the details which they will use in preparing the GIA grant application.

Item 2: Bruce has estimated that to do the entire 2230' distance @ 10' wide by 6" deep between the gate at London Road to the gate at Mt. Gilboa Road will take about 400yds of Surpac. Dan & Bruce will negotiate with Zane White & Cushings Well Company to arrange for that material and will use that information in preparing the GIA grant application.

The grant application is due May 1,2026.

Item 3: This repair will be coordinated by Alan & Bruce using Alan's small excavator & "ditch dirt" provided by the town via Dave C.

Item 4: This work will be done as needed by volunteers. A list of volunteers will be developed and provided to Jodi Scanlan for the town's records. This will be updated as necessary.

RTP grant: Bruce reported that in order to submit a RTP grant for funds to be used in 2027, a representative of the committee must attend the RTP workshop session in Concord, NH on April 29,2026 at 6pm.

Unfortunately, none of us is available to attend that session. Bruce is on a waiting list for the 1pm session and will attend if that works out.

Alan updated us on the MOU between the town and the NH BOT. It is completed & waiting for the final OK by the town lawyer.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm.

Signed: Bruce Clement