

Weston Conservation Commission

Minutes – October 6, 2022

Attending: Ken Hall, Don Hart, Marguerite Mason, Chris Morrow, Andrew Harper, Loretta Murphy
Casey Merritt - District Recreation Program Manager, Martina Barnes - District Ranger

Public: Jeff Lennox

Meeting Called to Order at 7:03PM

Requested Changes to the Agenda: none

Public Comment: None

Discussion with Casey Merritt, Green Mountain National Forest Manchester District Recreation Program Manager, about West River Forest CCC camp and trail; necessary actions regarding signage, mitigation measures, maintenance, funding

Ms. Merritt and Ms. Barnes discussed their respective roles at the Forest Service. Mr. Hall summarized notes and minutes to date. Ms. Merritt reiterated her concerns - trail maintenance (if and by whom), this project has gone through NEPA as a .25 mile trail but with restrictions as to the wetlands (discourage people from disturbing the wetlands.) Discussion about signage - kiosk and Trail End sign. Kiosk is waiting for a map to be finalized (quote for \$335), Trail End sign has been ordered and will be installed by the Forest Service. Mountain Valley Trail Association will add this trail to their list for trail clearing in the fall. FS would expect a twice year inspection for blow downs, brush clearing for class two trail, cleaning trash, drainage. The FS needs a response on two things: 1) Need a point organization for trail maintenance. 2) Ms. Merritt asked to have one point person from the WCC to deal with.

1) MVTA would be willing to do some clearing in the fall as they are a winter organization. Discussion ensued about the spring cleanup. Mr. Hall moved to create a trails working group. Mr. Morrow seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Mr. Harper will head up the working group.

2) Mr. Harper will remain as the point person with the Forest Service. He agreed to cc the conservation commission email on all further communications with the Forest Service. It is: conservation@westonvt.org

Review of September 1 minutes:

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report - none

Energy Working Group - Mr. Morrow was asked to research heat pumps for possible use at the Town Office.

Draft Rules for Committees & Working Groups - "Ad Hoc Committees" will be changed to Working Groups in the document. Mr. Morrow moved to accept edits. Mr. Hall seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Draft Rules - Officers. Discussion about rule f. Take out the word OR and combine the two paragraphs. Ms. Murphy moved. Mr. Hall seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business:

Meeting schedule for the rest of 2022 - discussion. If needed, we will schedule a special meeting.

Ms. Murphy motioned to adjourn. Mr. Hart seconded. Motion to adjourn approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26PM.

Next Meeting: November 3rd, 2022 at 7PM.