

Westford Conservation Commission Meeting - 9/25/08

Attendees: Christopher Dawson, Joel Fay, Patricia Hechmer, Chuck McGill, Mike Nelson, Sarah Pinto Mark Winer

Conservation sub-committee

The group continues to work on updating the Natural Resources section of the Town Plan. A new vision statement has been adopted. Maps of deer/bear wintering areas have been obtained from Jens Hilke of VT Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. These maps will be part of a series of overlays that will highlight natural resource areas. The sub-committee is working to add a glossary of technical and financial resources available to residents to protect or improve the natural resources on their property.

Trails sub-committee

Members of the committee installed water bars on an especially problematic area of the Goodrich Trail.

The committee intends to apply for a VT Recreational Trails Grant sponsored by VT DOT. The application has a Jan. 15, 2009 deadline.

One of 4 landowners has given his agreement to an easement arrangement for recreational use of an existing trail on private land. Research is ongoing to confirm whether an ancient road may also exist in this area of Town.

Both the Select Board and School Board have concluded that the bulk of school trails are on school property. Joel Fay will maintain these trails as best he can. The Conservation Commission plans to post trail rules on these trails.

The Trails sub-committee is working to close by the end of October the long standing project to name the school trails.

Other...

T-shirts...8-10 were sold on July 4<sup>th</sup>, the rest are stored at the Town Office.

Mike Nelson discussed the role of conserving forested land in aiding carbon sequestration.