

WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes – DECEMBER 21, 2022 6:00 PM – WESTFORD TOWN OFFICE

Members present: Sarah Pinto, Joel Fay, Kirsten Tyler, & Elias Rosenblatt

Public present: None

6:00 pm

- Review and Approval of October meeting minutes
 - SEP motioned, JF seconded, all approved
- Changes to Agenda
 - None

6:05 pm

- Public Comment - none

6:15 – Trail Updates

- Story-walk...time to go? Storywalk installation for ski season
 - Story walk has been taken down
 - Next story will be ready in mid-January and be installed then if conditions allow
 - Second story could go up after use at Winter Fest around the common, but TBD
 - Summer story-walk perhaps include a choose your own adventure option.
- Kiosks specs for selectboard
 - Waiting to bring specs to select board in spring, JF to do in spring
 - SEP to put stakes out at Seymour in spring, or check out to see plowing extent

6:30

- WNRCD collaboration
 - May mow riverside trail a bit further away from the riverbank to anticipate erosion
 - Not the best interest to plant species in proposed area along eroded section of riverside north trail, unless to add species but not good investment given expected erosion.
 - WNRCD can liaison with WCC to work with landowners adjacent to the Browns River who are interested in land, soil, and water conservation
 - WCC can assist in reach out to landowners to target restoration efforts
 - SEP and KT to identify parcels with river frontage that could be contacted about accessing conservation and restoration resources

- Plan meeting to ask questions to WNRCD rep about next steps and language for approaching landowners
 - Typical project scopes?
 - Common landowner concerns and questions?
 - How can WCC facilitate restoration actions?
- Future trail system connectivity
 - Interest in reaching out to community or large parcel owners
 - Goal to connect trails
 - WCC to draft letter to contact landowners and pose idea of a trail passing through property
 - SEP to contact Pat H. regarding landowners for trail connectivity.
 - SEP and KT to identify potential connector trails.
- ARPA – Phase 2 Application Update – Joel #1
 - ARPA application has been selected for funding
 - A deposit will be put down on a snowmobile when one is available, with ETA next year given supply chain.
 - Equipment shed will require location and permitting, plan to start the process in March.
- Vermont Invasive Management Day
 - Tabled until next meeting

6:50 – Other business

- Newsletter Items
 - Crosscountry skiing
 - Heads up about Feb race hosted Fairfax BFA involving multiple schools
 - Donations
- January meeting?
 - No January Meeting

7:08 – SEP motions to adjourn, ER seconded, all approved