

Webster Conservation Commission

February 14, 2018

Meeting at Town Hall

Present: Chris Schadler, Chair, Linda Clark, and Betsy Janeway

1. Appoint Secretary: Betsy volunteered.
2. Minutes from February were moved and accepted.
3. Correspondence: Saving Special Places forum on April 8, 8 A.M. - 4 P.M. in Alton, NH, with Terry Tempest Williams the Keynote Speaker. There are 100 more available seats if anyone wants to sign up. Many good workshops.
4. Town Meeting: Discussed showing support for the Clothespin Bridge replacement, and for the solar array which will power all three town buildings.
5. Master Plan: we think the Conservation Chapter from a decade ago is still pertinent although we need to discuss the "Suggestions" and "Areas of Concern," and see if these sections need updating. Linda Clark has an update on the wells at Pillsbury Lake.
6. Library Meeting: Nancy Pictall-French wants to co-sponsor events with the CC, and we are enthusiastic about the idea. May inspire more participants.
7. 5 Rivers Roundtable meeting March 15 was attended by Chris and Betsy who found it inspiring, interesting to hear concerns and victories of other local CCs, and who look forward to more Roundtables with the NHACC and 5 Rivers.
8. Red Pine Plantation: Linda Clark and Betsy Janeway walked to the red pine plantation in the town's Riverdale Natural Area with forester Anita Blakeman on February 27th. Anita reviewed with us all the possible actions we could consider but in the end she recommended doing nothing, as lumbering machinery would be destructive, the pines are worth so little, and the trees are within the Shoreland Protection Act's protective area, close to the Blackwater River. Anita suggested we prune an old apple tree to encourage its growth and apple production for wildlife. Chris said she knows how to prune.
9. Discussed: field trip ideas such as a visit to the huge glacial erratic off of Call Road; and a paddle down the Blackwater River above the dam following a trip to the river's headwaters. Discussed possible liability on a Webster Wild daycamp. Discussed Roadside Cleanup on Saturday, April 29. Betsy will remind Sally Embley to write it up for the Grapevine.
10. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M. Minutes Respectfully Submitted, Betsy Janeway