

**Webster Conservation Commission**

**9 March 2022**

**4:00 PM Town Hall**

**Present:** Chris Schadler (Chair), Sally Embley, Isabel Brintnall, Joe Pawlowski, Mary Jo MacGowan

**Guest:** David Nesbitt

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Summary</b>
1. Appoint Secretary and alternates, if needed.	Meeting commenced at 4:04 Mary Jo offered to take minutes
2. Easement Boundary Monitoring - Betsy and Mary Jo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connie Coulton from SPHNF reached out to Chris about monitoring forms (224-9945 ext 353)</li><li>• Mary Jo will set up a time to meet with Betsy to organize paperwork and make a plan to monitor easements<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mary Jo will email the group with dates</li></ul></li><li>• Chris has already walked Mock Forest and Riverdale and can sign off on both</li></ul>
3. Trail Clean-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Riverdale – mark trails with purple paint</li><li>b) Mock Forest – re-route southern trail away from river and build walk over creek</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We have a can of purple paint to re-mark the trails at Riverdale</li><li>• We also want to re-route a couple of trails that are getting too close to the river - making them less safe and contributing to erosion<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The riverside fork of Riverdale on eroding bank</li><li>○ The river trail (lower loop) of Mock Forest may need to be moved or have handrails or roping</li></ul></li><li>• Chris will pick a couple of days to get a group out to assess</li><li>• Also looking to improve brook crossing at the beginning of Mock Forest trail to make it safer<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Isabel will call Dana to ask about liability to town</li><li>○ Isabel will also speak to Connie at SPNHF about the possibility of cleaning up logging roads to create trails at <a href="#">Shea Reservation</a></li></ul></li></ul>
4. Earth Day Town Clean-up - Sally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Earth Day is April 22 – to make it easier on town's people we will extend the clean-up throughout the month instead of limiting it to one day</li><li>• Sally will speak at town meeting and hand out bags</li><li>• Additional bags will be available under the overhang at the town office entrance</li></ul>
5. Discussion – Monthly Walks and Talks – Chris <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Topics</li><li>b) Advertising/PR</li><li>c) Guest field guides</li><li>d) Public Engagement – movies?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We had a long discussion about 'Experts in the Field' leading nature walks on a variety of subjects</li><li>• Chris will talk to Bob about walks he might be interested in hosting<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Salamander walk is planned for first warm and rainy April evening</li></ul></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Details will be posted on town web site</li> <li>○ A general announcement in the Grapevine will advise town's people to check the web site</li> <li>• Chris will plan a winter tree walk in November</li> <li>• Isabel will talk to David Carroll about a turtle walk possibly to be held at <a href="#">the Stevens Rail Trail</a> in Contoocook</li> <li>• Rick Van de Poll was mentioned as a possible walk leader (mushrooms?)</li> <li>• We discussed the possibility of movies – Chris has a list of good suggestions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We'll be sure to include 'how to watch'</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We also discussed creating trail maps of Webster trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ David is reviewing 1930 maps of town for abandoned roads and will send a link</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6. Pollinator Garden at the School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This idea was reviewed previously and there is concern around attracting bees at the school where some students have allergic reactions to bees</li> <li>• We might be able to work with the new garden club on a joint project</li> </ul>
7. WCC Education a) DES or NHACC speaker on proposed/new regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All members are interested in furthering their education</li> </ul>
8. Pillsbury Lake Hunting Preserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris wanted to let us know that she is planning to meet with members of the Pillsbury Lake Village District about their recent decision to allow night hunting of coyotes at the hunting preserve</li> </ul>
9. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sally wanted to make the commission aware of funds that may be available through the Aquatic Resources Management Group to protect wetlands</li> </ul>
Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM Minutes respectfully submitted by: <b>Mary Jo MacGowan</b>	