

Woodbury Conservation Commission Meeting 1/16/25 Draft Minutes

Members Present: Paul Council, Jack Travelstead, Libby Case, Chad Wohlers, Michael Gray

Approve Minutes from Dec. Meeting: Larry Becker's last name was corrected. Motion was made to approve minutes. The motion was passed.

Finance Update: Finances are unchanged. Chad will ask Brandy or the new treasurer (Lilly Baron) to write check for AVCC dues.

Speaker Series and Field Trip Updates: Paul has communicated with Larry Becker about the possibility of a field trip to look at some geologic contacts in town with a group and have Larry discuss what he sees going on geologically at those places. Libby suggested the event should be late April or early May, which is when Larry and Paul had agreed would be a good season, before the leaves come out. Paul will be in contact with Larry to develop this possibility. The event with Brett Engstrom will be postponed since that isn't as season-dependent as a geology field trip.

We also discussed the potential snowshoe trip. Michael suggested the trip could take place in the Buck Lake wetland/ beaver flowage. We will consider the snow conditions at our February meeting and decide on a date in late Feb. or March.

Town Forest Update: Paul contacted Emily Potter the forester. She did not respond which he inferred to mean she was busy. Members suggested getting back to her with tactful persuasion...

Jack will contact Diana about the possibility of establishing a conservation easement for the Town Forest and report back with her thoughts. Jack and Diana are both Northern Rivers Land Trust board members (voluntary roles; neither Jack or Diana would benefit in any way if NRLT holds a conservation easement on the property).

Nichols Ledge Peregrine Site Disruptions: Michael spoke with Margaret Fowle about the overuse at the ledge during nesting season. Margaret was aware of rock climbers and has been working with getting word out with the climbers' club. Michael pointed out that the falcons have moved to a site near the active Fletcher Quarry and has spoken with a quarry representative, who claimed Swenson has closed access to some roads and trails there. Michael will contact Scott Marshall, the out of state owner of Nichols Ledge. Members discussed whether it would be possible to have the trail removed from the All Trails website to relieve some of the pressure.

Next Meeting: February 20, 2025

