

Woodbury Conservation Commission (WCC) Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2026

Present: Libby Case; Chad Wohlers; Jack Travelstead; Natalya Zahn; Sara Hedrick; Michael Gray

Agenda Items – Approval of 03.19.2026 meetings minutes; Green Up Day; Mother's Day Bird Walk; Speakers; Nichols Ledge Communications; Peregrines; Buck Lake/Green Mountain Conservation Camp Scholarships; Town Forest Trail Maintenance

Approval of 03.19.2026 WCC Meeting Minutes - Minutes are approved.

Green Up Day – Green Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 2nd. Paul is working on Green Up Day details. Michael and Patti Garbeck have offered to help Paul.

Mothers' Day Bird Walk – The Mothers' Day Bird Walk will occur on Sunday, May 10th. Paul will be leading the bird walk; Merlin will assist. The bird walk will be held on the town wetland/forest property by the school.

WCC Sponsored Speaker Series – The WCC discusses possible speakers for presentations in the fall/winter of 2026/2027. Natalya suggests Ethan Tapper, former county forester, who has published a book entitled "How to Love a Forest: The Bittersweet Work of Tending a Changing World." The possibility of having Emily Sayers as a co-presenter to talk about the town forest is mentioned. Natalya will contact Ethan Tapper. Larry Decker had offered to lead a field trip along County Road to look at the geology record easily seen along the road. Libby will contact Larry to see if he is still interested in leading that field trip in autumn's "stick season."

Buck Lake Green Mountain Conservation Camp Scholarships: Michael shares that he discussed the scholarships with Robin Durkee. His discussion with Robin left him with questions. Michael would like to check in with Seville Murphy, NEWT, F&W and Robin to have a better sense of how the scholarship process would work best.

Nichols Ledge – Michael shares some of the ongoing communications he has had with the owner of Nichols Ledge. All communications were positive, though the ledge owner had worries over Act 181 and a non-profit seed saving organization that contacted him interested in finding and collecting seeds from two rare plants listed for Nichols Ledge. Michael has included the land owner in the peregrine updates.

Peregrine Update - The peregrines do appear to have chosen a new site. Weekly spot checks have found the peregrines at the new site. No incubating appears to have begun.

Town Forest Trail Maintenance – Jack and Chad will be doing clean up maintenance on the town forest trail on May 4th.