

**TOWN OF WATERVILLE VALLEY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES – FINAL
OCTOBER 25, 2023
1PM WVES & TOWN MEETING ROOM**

1. The Commission gathered at the Elementary School for a science class field trip re: forest fire prevention and forest stewardship.
2. Attendees: Irit Levy, chair; Cyndy Piekos, member; Charles Hastings, member; Becca Hastings, member; Paul Ricotta, alternate; Jennie Lucas, member; John Recine, Planning Board ex officio. This was a community event so there were many members of the public also in attendance. Following the field trip, the Commission returned to the Town Meeting Room where all the commissioners listed above were present, in addition to Mark Decoteau, Town Manager.
3. The 7th and 8th grade science classes led small groups on a multi-station presentation in the forest behind the school. The main focus was how to prevent forest fires, some basics about how fire fighters handle forest fires, and fire resilient plant and tree species.
4. Privilege of the floor – none
5. Old Business
 - a. Update on Snows Brook project – no news from either Rick or the Forest Service.
 - b. Construction site storm water run-off – tabled until the next meeting.
 - c. The large Greenbelt parcel sign was there for viewing. Members of the Commission are planning to meet on-site with Megan to discuss placement. One of the previously hung smaller signs was relocated to a suitable tree near the edge of the Greenbelt property. The Commission voted to purchase two more small signs – one to be hung around the corner from the tunnel, one to have in reserve.
 - d. Mark gave an update on the WWTF – the Town is finalizing a contract with the new engineering firm soon. He briefly touched on new standards for lead and copper testing in the municipal water supply, which is mostly an expansion in the number of test sites required. He said we are probably going to see continued evolution of water testing requirements, including for PFAS. NH currently has the most stringent PFAS levels in the country, but ironically tests don't currently exist to detect PFAS at the levels indicated in the requirements.
6. The date of the next meeting was set for December 6, 2023 @ 1pm
7. The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 pm.

"We are located on N'dakinna, which is the traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki, Pennacook, and Wabanaki Peoples, past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land and waterways and the alnobak (people) who have stewarded N'dakinna throughout the generations."