

**Wentworth Conservation Commission (WCC)**  
**Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**January 3, 2023**

**Place:** ZOOM (due to sickness amongst the members)

**Time:** 10:04 AM

**Present:** Linda Brownson, Chair  
Tuula Pihlajavesi, Vice Chair  
Ilse “Izzy” Mercier, Secretary

- Chair L. Brownson called the meeting to order at 10:04.
- Wentworth Town Forest Recreational Trail Network. The AMC draft was reviewed by the Police Chief, Fire Chief and Friends of Wentworth Park and Rec. Revisions will be made and forwarded to AMC. The final draft will be posted to the Town website. A map of the trails will be included with the WCC report in the March Town Meeting Report. L. Brownson will be meeting with Road Agent for recommendations on preparing the entrance and parking lot area.

The six proposed warrant articles for 2023 have been reviewed and revised. These are Conservation Fund, Town Forest Conservation Easement, Conservation Appropriation, Land Use Change Tax, Forest Maintenance Appropriation and Sale of Town Forest Parcel. The N. Dorchester Road parcel was included in the land descriptions for the Town Forest in the 2022 town warrants. A 2023 warrant article requesting permission to sell, that proceeds will go to the Conservation Fund and the WCC can expend the proceeds on a conservation easement for the Wentworth Town Forest and/or other conservation purposes or projects will be included.

L. Brownson will be meeting with the Town Manager on Thursday to review the warrant articles and the WCC budget.

- Pemi-Baker Land Trust Conservation Easement edits. The next combined meeting of the Pemi-Baker Land Trust and Wentworth Conservation Committee will be January 10, 2023 at 9:00 at the Town Office. WCC tasks are to review emails from the PB Land Trust, particularly the one about natural plants and be prepared to discuss what WCC wants in the easement. This meeting should put the easement application close to finalizing in preparation for review by attorneys on both sides.
- NRI-Natural Resource Inventory. Preliminary discussion was about the importance of this inventory. It was suggested that mention of it be included in the WCC report for the town meeting so townspeople are informed of the importance of a natural resource inventory and the extensive work that goes into producing the inventory. Results of the 2019 Master Plan Survey Chapter 7 shows that conservation and outdoor recreation was important to the townspeople. It should be top priority of the WCC 2024 work plan. NH has a NRI Guide which will be of assistance.
- Social Media Report. L. Brownson's introduction was posted on the FB Wentworth Bulletin and was received well. Each month another member will be introduced.
- Observations in Nature. L. Brownson participated in the annual Audubon Society Bird Count. Her area is Wentworth and she observed 37 different species. Of particular interest was a Barred Owl. Bird feeders and fall wild cherries on Atwell Hill have brought in evening grosbeaks and cedar waxwings. Turkeys remain in abundance. Deer do not seem to be in abundance.
- No other business or comments
- Meeting adjourned at 11:11
- Minutes submitted by I. Mercier, Secretary