

Minutes of the Forest and Trails Committee
Town of Conway
April 24, 2024
6:30 pm Town Offices

Present:

Members: Marilyn Webster, Deb Donaldson, Priscilla Lynch, Suzanne Artemieff, Courtney Gilligan
Associate Member: Cynthia Lawton-Singer

Meeting called to order, 6:32 pm.

The minutes of the 3/21/24 meeting were approved.

Suzanne has emailed and called Mary Wigmore to confirm a date for her to walk with us. This will be either the 26th or the 29th. Suzanne will confirm with the committee by this Thurs at 6pm.

Marilyn reported that the first class for the Nature Journaling project took place with 12 participants.

Deb reported that she is planning to attend the Spring Fling at the grammar school on 5/5. She will table with handouts on invasives and a trail map. Students will be giving tours of the trail behind the school. The 6th grade is making a sign for the trail.

Deb reported that next year she wants to apply for a Woodlands Grant through the Woodlands Partnership. The grants average \$25,000 and can be used for a variety of things: plantings, restoration, culvert repair. The town needs to front the money and then the town is reimbursed.

Priscilla shared that a townsperson has spoken to her about the vehicles in the Town Forest. They have been in contact with DCR who reports that vehicles can only be excluded, if the town abandons the road. Discussion as to how to protect the area as it is being damaged by vehicles. Suzanne will invite SelectBoard Chair, Phil Kantor to the next meeting to discuss the town's obligations etc. Priscilla will invite the townsperson, as they have the direct information from DCR.

Courtney reported that the Department of Ecological Restoration has grants which focus on culverts. They are available to consult prior to applying.

Next meeting: 5/22/24 6:30pm, Town Offices
Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm