

WOODLANDS PARTNERSHIP of NORTHWEST MASSACHUSETTS

A Mission of Natural Resource-Based Economic Development, Forest Conservation, & Municipal Financial Sustainability

MEETING NOTICE

The **Executive Committee**
of the **Woodlands Partnership of Northwest Massachusetts**
will meet on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

This is a virtual meeting via Zoom. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
Please email Agent Lisa Hayden to request a Zoom link at any time: lhayden@newenglandforestry.org

Agenda

1. Call to order and welcome
2. Approval of July 30, 2025 minutes
3. Focus on Heritage Area Feasibility Study:
 - Introduce consultant Jessica Dolan, PhD: Update on launch of Indigenous-focused Inventory
 - Chairman's report: recent Indigenous community meetings; discussions re: transparency & potential Heritage Area funding
 - Discuss questions from Regional Planning Agencies on their portion of NHA feasibility study
4. Agent's report:
 - Board insurance renewal quotes
 - \$75,000 EOEAA WP grant Voices for Forest awarded – video story telling & schools outreach
 - USFS modification & extension approved – completion of Forest-Centered Stewardship grant
 - USFS tree-planting grant – 2 more planting sites for fall & spring
 - Plan for Oct. Ex. Com. meeting: Revisit consultant's 3-year Fundraising plan: key recommendations & next steps on fiscal sponsor and financial structure questions
 - *Slow Wood* book reading event held at Williams College
5. Scheduling Oct. Committee meeting & Fall Board meeting – likely Heritage Area focus
6. Any item(s) not anticipated within 48 hours
7. Public comment
8. Adjourn

Executive Committee members: Dicken Crane – Windsor (Board Chair); Art Schwenger – Heath (Board Vice Chair); Alain Peteroy – Franklin Land Trust (Clerk); Chris Cozzaglio – Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (Treasurer); Rhonda Anderson – Ohketeau Cultural Center; Russ Richardson – Massachusetts Forest Alliance; Robert O'Connor – MA EOEAA