

## Bethel Conservation Commission Minutes – 2/10/15

**Present** Mary Floyd, Emily Miller, Tom Warhol, Moe Brigham, Jen Schomp  
**Action on Minutes** minutes from January were approved.

### Business

- Election of officers
  - Chair: Mary Floyd; Vice-chair: Tom Warhol; Secretary: Emily Miller
  
- Town Meeting
  - No issues, events, etc. we want to publicize.
  
- Dimock/Weber Road Closure Decision
  - town is reactivating the ancient roads committee to develop guidelines to determine what roads may be discontinued;
  
- Branliere Forest Project next steps:
  - review Eric's grant proposal, determine what changes we want to make (Mary will track it down);
  - review Department Forest and Parks (ANR) grant guidelines;
  - contact Jon Bouton again about creating trails on town forests;
  - explore possibility of partnering with RTCC and/or VTC;
  
- FloodReadyVT website review:
  - Right now Bethel is only eligible for 7.5% from ERAF;
  - To be eligible for 12.5% we need:
    - Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (allegedly in the works);
  - To be eligible for 17.5% we need:
    - adopting river corridor protections in flood hazard bylaws (we don't seem to have bylaws so instead we might again amend the floodplain section in the zoning ordinance);
    - the CC recommends to the Selectboard and Planning Commission that we adopt river corridor protections;
    - if the Selectboard agrees, the CC will pursue the process with Sacha Pealer, the VT Agency of Natural Resources floodplain manager for central VT.
  
- CC should obtain a VLT map of conserved properties for Bethel.
- Mary will look into having space in filing cabinet in the town offices.
- CC would like to take Victoria Weber up on her offer to come speak with us about the history of the committee and the "old growth" forest on her property.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

**Next meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm.**