

WCC meeting 8/11/2026

Present: Amy Marshall-Carney (Chair), Malachi Brennan, Silje Larsen, Lotta Lampela, Josh Lincoln

No members of the public present.

Meeting called to order 6:22 PM

1. Agenda Review, Modification & Opening Remarks
 - The agenda was approved.
2. Public Comments
 - No public comments were presented.
3. Meeting Minutes WCC 7/14/26 Review and Approval
 - Minutes of the July 14, 2026, meeting were approved.
4. NRI – Outreach Update
 - Lotta updated the Commission on the Natural Resources Inventory outreach. A post published on Front Porch Forum had yielded some interest from landowners.
 - Silje agreed to prepare a social media post on the NRI.
 - It was also agreed that Members of the Commission would reach out to their neighbors and friends in Town to share the message.
5. UVM Environmental Problem Solving
 - Amy briefed on the Rubenstein School's interest in working with the Commission and gave an overview of previous projects with the students. These included, for example, shoot planting in riparian areas.
 - There was no immediate fit for a cooperation project, but the idea was generally deemed welcome.
6. Draft Municipal Plan is out there for the Public
 - The draft Town Plan, now published for public comments, was discussed. Of particular interest to the Commission members was the Natural Resources Chapter, which currently includes a suggested strategy point as follows:
“Working with experts and landowners, the Conservation Commission will

propose a plan to manage the Shutesville Hill wildlife corridor by the year 2030.”

- It was agreed that the Commission would not be in favor of including such language in the Town Plan. A land management plan is a process that takes years, and the end result has no regulatory authority; at the same time, the members of the public who had attended the Planning Commission meeting on Shutesville had been in support of increasing regulation to strengthen conservation of the wildlife corridor. It was also noted that there currently are no land management plans at all in Waterbury.
- It was decided that the Commission would continue the discussion in the next meeting. Malachi agreed to draft a proposal for the Commission-wide comment for review and approval at the next meeting.

7. Better Connections – WCC role & next steps

- The Commission’s role in the Waterbury Center Better Connections project was discussed. Despite the fact that the original grant application indicated a role for the Commission, such involvement had never been discussed. It was decided that Amy would formally reach out to the representatives of the Better Connections project to clarify no engagement today, emphasizing the Commission’s interest to engage.

8. Selectboard Update due 9/1/2026

- Amy informed that the next Conservation Commission update to the Selectboard would take place on September 1, 2026.

9. Wrap-up and adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.