

Springfield Conservation Committee

11/22/25 Meeting Minutes- Final/Approved.

Members Present: Geetu Melwani- Co-chair, Heidi Trimbach, Hallie Whitcomb, Nate Ells.

Not present: Carrie Kellow Chair, Chuck Gregory

Mineral Extraction- Citizen Input

-Springfield residents representing "Friends of Skitchewaug" gave their groups history and the history of mineral extraction applications for a property on Skitchewaug Trail (Vermont Route 143).

-It was determined to; investigate where the current application stands before Vermont's Act 250 Environmental Court, and to develop a set of recommendations for the Selectboard regarding mineral extraction ordinances.

-Discussion on how Springfield's proposed Land Use Ordinances would affect this and future mineral extraction applications.

Pollinator Meadows Discussion

-Valley Street Meadow -Possible "Miyawaki Forest"

-An inventory of open spaces owned by the Town that are suitable for pollinator habitat is needed.

- Timeline for Hospital projects:

- 2026; Establish contact and coordinate with the hospital's Garden Committee

- Hill 1 2026; remove invasives during the summer and organize plantings for the Fall 2026

- Hill 2 2026;

- Identify native species present during May

- Develop a showcase plot in the corner where the drive meets the road.

- Organize a plan for plantings Fall 2026.

- Produce signage for showcase plot and Hill 1

Determined

-Move forward with the plan to re-introduce the American Chestnut to Springfield.