

Mount Holly Conservation Commission
Meeting of January 6, 2026
Draft Minutes

Opening

The first 2026 meeting of the Mount Holly Conservation Commission was held at the Town Office on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 following the Select Board budget workshop. Discussion, informal at first, began at 6:01 pm. Dave spoke of a reported ash borer sighting at Buttermilk Falls. It was suggested that we email Faith Tempest and Jeff Chase with a detailed Conservation Commission budget request.

Members attending in person were Phil Crane (from 6:20), Jeanmarie Fitzgerald, Phil Leonard, Sue Presson, Birgir Nilsen and Dave Martin.

Agenda and Minutes

The agenda document was approved. There was no action on prior minutes.

Discussion of Agenda items

We discussed the Annual Report begun by Phil C. - with helpful details and comments from members present. The report is due January 8.

Phil C. indicated that there are several spots in the town budget that support the MHCC, and estimated that perhaps as much as \$6K might be involved. Dave mentioned that there is some money still in the Energy Workshop grant. A second camera might be a possibility. Phil C. will compose a guide to camera use; he noted that the Library and Odd Fellows Hall were revealed to have significant energy loss issues.

Steve Michel had a spreadsheet copy at the Budget Workshop - we should access this. Phil L. to follow up.

Regarding Star Lake, we took up planning for a session of some MHCC members with State Senator Terry Williams this coming weekend. Use of graphics from the May community meeting, and information about wetlands classification, will be useful. Dave will coordinate details with Sen. Williams and with Alex.

Sue will be away, returning January 18. She asked that members send her info that she can compile before the ChitChat deadline of January 20. She suggested consideration of a "Name that Harvester" contest.

Action Items

- Phil C. to complete Annual Report.
- Phil L. to ask Steve Michel about Budget Workshop spreadsheet.
- Dave, Alex and others to plan for meeting Sen. Williams.
- Members to prepare contributions for Sue as input for the next ChitChat issue.

Next Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 3**, at 6 pm in the Town Office.

Adjournment occurred at 7:20 pm. Minutes prepared and submitted by Phil Leonard, Clerk