

Historic District Commission/Historic Commission  
Meeting Thursday June 4, 2015 10:00 AM  
Forestry Committee Walk - Old Town Dump

HD/HC Present: Frank Farmer, Joan Normington, Wendy Williams, Carol Pynn  
Forestry Present: Wanda, Norm, ?

Frank, Wendy, Carol, and Joan N. met with Forestry Committee to walk area to be harvested for trees. The felling is routine forest maintenance and not clear cutting. Most trees to be felled are pines that have grown too large and small unhealthy trees of various species, in order to allow healthy trees and baby trees to thrive. There is no intent to sell or develop the area.

The forest is pretty thick. Trees to be cut are clearly marked with a blue "X". The sledge trails are intended to become hiking and walking trails that may hook up to the existing walking trail off Osgood Road. We passed a large pond as well as smaller potential vernal pond areas.

There was concern regarding 2 existing cellar holes being impacted by the work. The Osgood cellar is not impacted. Location of cut was changed away from that location due to public outcry. The Moekel cellar is in the new cutting area. Wanda led the walk out to the Moekel cellar with GPS. The cellar is largely intact with interesting depth and a sloping ramp that would have been the cellar entry egress.

Also of note are the stone walls located near the cellar as well as the lady slipper orchids growing along the walking route we took.

Discussed writing a piece for the Windham Independent about our enjoyable foray with the forestry committee members and dispel some of the mistruths circulating.

The general consensus was the outcome of the forest maintenance cutting would have positive impacts, creating easier accessibility and walking trails for recreational activities of Windham residents. The Moekel cellar hole, now inaccessible, could potentially be after the felling is completed.

Notes compiled by Wendy Williams