

NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting on October 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Pam Knox at 6:40 pm.

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Commissioners Pam Knox, Ruth Ruttenberg, Christine Barnes, Russ Barrett, Don Wallace, Jane Pekol, Leslie Matthews, and Laura Hill-Eubanks. Also attending was Michael Lew-Smith from Arrowwood Environmental.
- II. **SET/ADJUST AGENDA:**
- III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (scheduled):**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** September 9, 2015 minutes approved 4-0-3
- V. **DISCUSSION**
 - a. **Introduction of new members Jane Pekol and Nathaniel Miller:** The Select Board has appointed two new members to the Conservation Commission. NCC looks forward to working with its newest Commissioners.
 - b. **Town Forest Management Plan Consultant-Michael Lew-Smith, Arrowwood:** Consulting ecologist, Michael Lew-Smith and the NCC discussed the Town Forest natural resources survey that he will be conducting with the help of grant money awarded to the NCC. He would like to know about the history of the forest and other information that would be helpful. Russ and Leslie will send Michael the shape files on the surveys they carried out. Russ will send use/value information. Laura will send links to reports and history documents. Christine will send the current draft of the plan visions and goals.
 - c. **Urban Forest Draft:** NCC discussed tentative plan to have the training for urban forest management at the end of October.
 - d. **AVCC annual meeting:** NCC will renew its membership in the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions. Members will be attending the annual meeting on November 7 in Randolph at VT Technical College. The focus of this year's meeting is town forests. Laura will send the AVCC information out to the new NCC members. NCC members can register for the event at the AVCC membership rate.
 - e. **Other:** Northfield Town Forest, along with several other VT town forests, is the subject of a video made by UVM. Russ helped make the video (and is one of its co-stars) and will let us know when it becomes available.

A workshop will be held on Green Stormwater Infrastructure that will include information on the new bioretention stormwater treatment structure on Central St. here in Northfield. The workshop is sponsored by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission and will be held in the Community Room of the Brown Public Library in Northfield on October 28 at 6 pm - 8:30 pm, and October 29 at 10 am -12:30 pm.

Russ hiked the Town Forest with Nathan Ranker to start planning signage as part of Nathan's Eagle Scout work.

Russ also hiked Scrag Mountain with the Green Mountain Club; he explained the current system of hiking trails on Scrag to the NCC.

NCC would like to invite the GMC to a meeting with the NCC to discuss hiking and trails.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED):

VII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Hill-Eubanks, Northfield Conservation Commission.

These minutes are subject to changes and approval at the next regular meeting, but are substantially correct.