

# NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting on November 9, 2016

The Meeting was called to order at 6:36

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Commissioners Laura Hill-Eubanks, Ruth Ruttenberg, Christine Barnes, Jane Pekol, Pam Knox, Russ Barrett, Nathaniel Miller and Don Wallace
- II. **SET/ADJUST AGENDA:** Added recap from AVCC Conference and Conservation Funding for Town Meeting
- III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED):** None

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Will be done at next scheduled meeting

## v. DISCUSSION

1. Arrowwood Town Forest Plan Review
  - Creation of Town Forest Stewardship (and/or Recreation) Committee
    - Added language that any new leases or renewal of any leases must be approved by this (Sub-)Committee and then the NCC and then the Selectboard
    - Committee could consist of 5 members including a 2 conservation or wildlife specialists (NCC members), 1 representative from the mountain bikers group, 1 rep from the hiking community, and one Educator.
    - Term limits could be two 3-year terms and three 2-year terms. If we replace everybody each year then there is no continuity. Members would be appointed by agreement between NCC and the Selectboard.
    - The group could meet quarterly or “as needed.”
    - NCC will find out what are the kind of asks are appropriate for the Stewardship Committee
    - Pam will research what Middlesex has done to create and sustain their Committee
  - Conservation easement language has been drafted: Establish a conservation easement to ensure protection and continued use as a conservation, recreation, and forestry resource for future recommendations.
2. Zoning Regulations
  - Laura sent out a memo to all Commissioners. Laura was given approval to do the final edits. Public hearing meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> and NCC is invited to attend.
3. Eagle Scout
  - Any extra money in Nate’s account will be available to us to finish the signage project, especially for area where one sign is missing. Need better marking for trails and a user-friendly map.
4. Meeting with Danielle Fitzko and 6 people from the state (including Northfield Road Foreman). Northfield will be the first town to be part of the study on back roads. They will be getting back to us in the spring. Ruth received information on grant opportunities.
5. Happy Birthday Russ!

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED): None.**

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:22.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Jane Pekol. These minutes are subject to changes and approval at the next regular meeting, but are substantially correct.