

NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting on September 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chair Zuaro at 5:35 PM

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Attending were Deborah Zuaro, Russ Barrett, Ruth Ruttenberg, Joe Dalrymple, Nathaniel Miller, Laura Hill-Eubanks
- II. **SET/ADJUST AGENDA:** Add parking lot for Town Forest. Move Town Forest discussion to end.
- III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** August 21, 2019. Ruth moved to approve the minutes. Russ seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

V. DISCUSSION

- a. **Emerald Ash Borer Survey: Ruth and Russ:** 80-90% of the town has now been surveyed for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). The data collected will be synced up with the VT state database and reported to the Select Board. Town needs an ash tree management plan and tree policies. Might be effective to mark ash trees with ribbons to show people how many of the trees there are here in town.
- b. **Signage for Town Forest; boundary marking etc.:** Boundary marker signs will be purchased to post around the Town Forest. Ruth will see about working with Girl Scouts to help with the project. Would also like to have 5 signs made to post at entrances to the TF – to include Welcome, TF information, and “you are here” decals. Ruth will check on how much the AVCC grant can pay for, and how much of NCC funds are available to use for the signage project.
- c. **Update on Better Connections Grant:** SE Group was awarded the contract for the planning grant. Debbie will send NCC the digital copy of the grant for information purposes.
- d. **Conservation Fund:** Will check to determine the amount currently in the fund. Should post public reminders that the Conservation Fund exists and that donations are always accepted.
- e. **Parking for Town Forest:** A property near the Town Forest has become available for purchase. Might be a potential lot for parking for the TF. Russ will research.
- f. **Town Forest Stewardship Presentation:** Public Forum on the TF Stewardship Plan will take place on Sept 25 at 7-9 PM in the BPL. Russ, Debbie, and the ecologist that helped to write the plan, Michael Lew-Smith from Arrowwood Environmental, will run the presentation. NCC discussed the concepts and policies in the Plan that might be covered.

- VI. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

These minutes are subject to review and revision at the next scheduled meeting, but are substantially correct.