

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
TOWN FOREST STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 17, 2024**

I. ROLL CALL - 1803

Ray Crowder, Jeremy Whalen, Nelson Hoffman, Russ Barret, Ginny Kunkel, Andrew Padilla, Colin Blackmon

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED): None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Aug 20th, 2024 - 6-0-0

IV. Agenda updates or additions

V. UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

a. Shaw Center update

- i. Finished blazing trails on the backside.**
- ii. Blazed several town trails**
- iii. Paine Mtn trail race on Friday 9/20**
- iv. MCW bbq and class of 2019 this weekend**
- v. Nelson and Andrew got a few trees off the orange trail**
- vi. Has seen instances of side by side traffic on clark route**
- vii. Andrew put up a few no campfire signs**
- viii. The no fire signs at the top of Cheney have been vandalized and removed. The site was left trashed with beer bottles and cigarette butts.**
- ix. All ROTC units have been provided the FTX regulations, no-go areas, and no camping areas.**
- x. Mowing has been completed on the Norwich property**

b. HS trails working group/ ARPA request update

- i. Jeremy and David met with VYCC.**
- ii. Jeremy needs to schedule Jen Krebs (VYCC Trail Leader) to help nail down budget according to priorities established by the working group.**
- iii. RTG regional trail grant applications (\$50k max and requires match) are open. NCC has started conversations on pursuing this grant.**
- iv. Volunteer hours can be counted towards the grant match.**
- v. VYCC has established a volunteer \$/hr rate.**

- c. **Volunteer forms and release**
 - i. Nelson asks if administrative functions like the monthly meeting and setting up the back end of volunteer form system.
 - ii. 10 recorded hours in the Town Forest
 - iii. Ray to reach out to Ken and Jeff about digital volunteer forms
- d. **October trail workday**
 - i. Colin has outline for trail work day on October 5th and 12th.
 - ii. Work to be completed might be water bar work and brush and vegetative clearing.
 - iii. Tools needed are lopper, pruners, no motorized tools, shovels, maddock, pulaski, pick axes.
 - iv. TFSC will decide what projects to tackle based on survey responses.
 - v. TFSC has a few lines in this month's Northfield News about trail work day.
 - vi. Russ mentions November 2 Norwich volunteer day. Jeremy is going to reach out to the staff and begin the setup.
- e. **Paine Mountain race volunteers**
 - i. Anchor Challenge Race is Friday at 17:30
- VI. **Public Participation (Unscheduled)**
- VII. **Other Business**
 - a. Weekly hikes have kicked off.
 - b. Russ led hikes up Kingston
 - c. Russ gives updates on the next few scheduled hikes.
 - d. This Saturday at 10a is a hike up to beaver pond and down the Norwich trails.
- VIII. **Adjournment - 1853 - 6-0-0**