

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
TOWN FOREST STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
Minutes of January 21, 2025**

- I. ROLL CALL** - Jeremy, Ginny, Ray, Andrew, Nelson
- II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED): None.**
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 17, 2024 - 5-0-0**
- IV. AGENDA UPDATES OR ADDITIONS**
- V. UPDATES & DISCUSSION**

- a. Shaw Outdoor Center Update**

- Kiosk and two signs are up at Shaw and health center.

- Wallet went missing on lift line.

- Andrew took care of tree on yellow trail

- No upcoming FTX. Suspects they will start back end of March and April.

- Closed Shaw Center in response to student death.

- Winter Carnival - 2/14-16 - some public participation is welcome.

- Nelson mentions that he thought the SOLO WFA was a good success and congratulates Andrew on putting that together. There is potential for additional classes in the future.

- b. Year-end Review Accomplishments**

- Jeremy mentions 2024 was the best year that he has seen for TFSC. He highlights all of Nelson's work maintaining trails, the successful pursuit of ARPA funds for trail maintenance, the tracking of volunteer hours, and general TFSC involvement. .

Jeremy highlights some potential projects for 2025 including updating the town forest management plan, aiding in the construction of the water tank replacement, zoning designation of the Town Forest from LDR to conservation, and working with VYCC for ARPA work.

Nelson asks how the recent economic charette went and how it can relate to the work TFSC is doing. Jeremy recaps what he saw while attending the meeting. He mentions that the focus of this group was not really Town Forest and more on traffic calming, walkability, and housing.

C Set 2025 Goals: Workdays, Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) Work

Jeremy mentions that there may not be 2 weeks' worth of work on Garvey and mentions a few projects that could be completed in its place. He mentions the reroute at the bottom of Lybrand, some reroutes away from vernal pools, and reroutes by the beaver pond. Nelson mentions that areas up near the beaver pond are designated in the Stewardship Plan as low travel but mentions there may be opportunities to move the existing trail. Potential for viewing area over beaver pond.

Andrew mentions that the day of service may already be scheduled for the fall. Students leave May 3 and Andrew could support clean-up efforts after that.

Ginny asks if there is still interest in mitigating the knotweed in Cheney field. Jeremy mentions that we could recommend a "Do Not Disturb Zone" where Knotweed is located

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (UNSCHEDULED). There was none.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS. None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT - 18:58 - 5-0-0