

NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday July 12, 2017

6:30 PM Brown Public Library Community Room

- I. 6:40 Called to Order. Roll Call
Present: Laura Hill-Eubanks, Russ Barrett, Pam Knox, Ruth Ruttenberg, Jane Pekol
Absent: Don Wallace, Leslie Mathews, Nathaniel Miller
- II. Approval of Minutes from May 10, 2017: Approved 5-0-0
- III. Public Participation (Scheduled): None
- IV. Set/Adjust agenda: Added Ruth talking to Rotary, Treasurer budget items, Backroads
- V. Discussion
 - Trail Grant

Week of July 24th, crew will be at Paine Mountain! They are a Day Crew out of Barre, will come over each day from there. Questions: do we need to rent a truck, where can materials be staged, preferences on purchasing. Ruth asked whether we should do anything to make them feel welcome, maybe bring them snacks, etc. 7-10 participants likely.

- Hike

Sunday 10:00 am at Paine Mountain, meet at the Medical Center.

- Backroads

Stony Brook and Smith Hill roads are to be cut this summer. Russ walked Smith Hill with Trent and flagged the trees they should not cut. Trent has a list of landowners who don't want any trees cut. Russ will be monitoring the cutting. Russ and Trent are only marking when people request it. Backroads Policy and best practices are needed. Ruth will check on the Calais policy, Jane will see whether Randolph has a policy.

Community forums on this and on the Dog River would be good to do. Rich Kirn, Fisheries Biologist for the State, gives a very good talk. A Geomorphic Assessment is typically done as a first step for planning and management of river corridors and riparian zones.

- Land Trust

Still working on communication on lands purchase. Waiting on assessment.

- Website

Pam has experience creating a free website through Google. It may be possible to get a free URL or to use the existing URL (through our page on the Town's site) to create a website for us. Can also ask TDS for space.

- Stewardship Plan

Leslie will be putting everything back together into one PDF.

- Community Education

Laura spoke about starting to get some educational materials around conservation onto the Facebook page and Front Porch Forum. Laura will go through the Town Plan and determine the topics relating to conservation that people should be informed about.

- Town Plan

Commissioners will be reviewing the Town Plan.

- Treasurer—Conservation Fund

Two funds—one for general use and one for Conservation only.

- Rotary

Ruth will be talking to the group in mid-August about NCC and the work that we do.

VI. Public Participation (Unscheduled): None

8:02 Adjourned