

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
TOWN FOREST STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2022**

I. ROLL CALL

Russ, Matt, Caroline, Colin in attendance. Lacking a chair, the meeting was called to order by mutual agreement at 6:05. Russ will act as chair for this meeting and Colin will take minutes.

Nigel joined at 6:21

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED): None.

III. DISCUSSION

a. Town Forest Reopening Update, Coordination with Norwich University. A hike is being planned with Collin O'Neill to look at new trails on the East side of Paine off of the Hawk Watch

b. Fires in the Town Forest. Matt emailed Nigel to talk about signage about fires being prohibited.

c. Trail Maintenance Ideas/Schedule. Matt took a ride before the last weekend which was very breezy and there weren't many obstructions. He's going to go up again to see if there are blowdowns that need clearing. Russ was up there today and saw one Spruce down between Lybrand and the first bridge. There was a group hike a few weeks ago and it was noted that some ATVs had been through above the Beaver Pond near the foundation and appeared to have been building a trail. It dead-ends at a deep hole and there hasn't been any further use. There is some maintenance to be done on the Clarke route to alleviate water coming out of a pipe onto the trail and creating a new area of erosion. Mat and Colin will look at times next week to go up and take care of it.

d. Working Group Membership

Trails/Master Planning - Nelson, Russ

Maintenance - Nelson, Mat

NU Relations - Colin, Caroline

Forestry - Russ

Dogs - Caroline, Colin

e. VOREC Grant Update. The first VOREC meeting was 6/20, Debbie Zuaro is chairing the committee, with Jeff Schulz taking the lead on most activities. There will be a meeting about bids for initial trail work next Monday. The group will be meeting twice monthly through the summer.

f. Dog Working Group Update. The group will attempt to meet in the coming weeks. Caroline will send an email with some time options.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of minutes of May 17, 2022. Russ moves approval, Caroline second, 4-0-0

Administration: The TFSC asks that the NCC fill vacant seats, and that appointing a chair wait until further seats have been filled. Colin expressed a preference that the chair position be filled by a member of the NCC.

Russ would like to move to in-person meetings. Caroline and Colin also support in-person meetings. Colin would like to see a hybrid model maintained.

Mat left the meeting at 6:51. Lacking a quorum the meeting formally concluded.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (UNSCHEDULED)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Russ, Second by Caroline. 3-0-0, meeting adjourned at 6:57