

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
TOWN FOREST STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
Tuesday, April 21, 2026**

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

Andrew Padilla, Ginny Kunkel, Jeremy Whalen, Dylan Alsbach, Russ Barrett, Ray Crowder came late

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED):

- a. Steve Schenk: Integrating Biodiversity Trails with Town Forest Existing Trails

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 17, 2026 - Revision requested approval next meeting

IV. AGENDA UPDATES OR ADDITIONS

V. UPDATES & DISCUSSION

- a. Shaw Outdoor Center update

FEMA repair of the landslide behind Shaw Center has begun. Work is planned to be completed next week 4/27.

Apex Trail Works will use excess dirt to repair the skills area.

DGVT is coming out to map the course in the next few weeks.

Norwich is looking for donors for tee pads. More info coming later this summer on the Norwich website. Reach out to Andrew Padilla.

Construction of tee pads will be ongoing over the summer.

May 2 is commencement.

Trails are mostly dry. Most blow downs have been taken care of.

Automatic gun fire happened during a recent FTX. The gunfire was after dark and was near the equipment shed at the top of Stage Coach. It is believed this is against state and/or town ordinance.

Conversations about trail work days on May 3.

- b. Cheney Field Parking update

Bill provided updates via email.
Next Steps

- Develop a clearer pilot program plan (including dates, structure, and logistics)
- Present a refined proposal to the Selectboard once ready
- Explore grant opportunities for picnic tables/benches
- Initiate outreach to Byam Road stakeholders regarding parking

Jeremy gave a recap of conversations on parking in the town forest.

c. Cheney Field Restoration Recommendations Proposal

Ginny and Bill met with NRC and VTrans and provided some recommendations for restoration of the field and Byam after construction wraps up. Next steps are to take recommendations to the NCC tomorrow.

d. Town Forest Stewardship Plan update

Jeremy proposed an update to the membership structure in The Plan. Including making a permanent seat on the board for the Norwich Outdoor Director.

e. Mud Season Trail Closures

No closures at this time. If it's sticking to your heels, hooves, or tires, then turn around.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (UNSCHEDULED)

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURN - 19:44