

Northfield Conservation Commission

Minutes of 2-24-21 Meeting

1. Roll call: The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. with Ruth, Russ, John, and Debbie in attendance.
2. Changes to agenda: Ruth added an item regarding publicity to the agenda.
3. Members of the public: Nelson Hoffman joined the meeting to express his concern that an increase in parking for the town forest would adversely affect conservation efforts in the forest due to increased usage. Nelson feels existing parking is sufficient to handle current use. Nelson reached out UVM for information on assessing the impact of potential changes, and will forward contact information to Debbie.
4. Approval of minutes: On a motion by Ruth, 2nd by Russ, minutes of the January 27, 2021 meeting were approved.
5. Discussion Items
 - a. CVRPC Planning grant-A grant application was submitted by Jeff, Jon, Lydia to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission for assistance in planning to implement 2 recommendations from the NRRR plan; additional crosswalks on Route 12 and potential parking access for the town forest.

- b. VOREC grant-This grant, to be released shortly, would support trailhead amenities such as kiosks, maps, improved access for the town forest. Not all members had reviewed the information on this grant. Ruth voiced her support for this but we will discuss again at our next meeting when everyone has reviewed the information.
 - c. Arbor Day Tree Planting grant-Ruth reported that grants of \$1,000 are available from the State. Ruth will discuss with Jeff and apply. Russ will forward the Lands Survey information that indicates where trees are needed in town.
 - d. Emerald Ash Borer Grant-This grant concludes in June. This Spring, replacement trees will be offered to homeowners. Trees will also be planted in locations where we are likely to lose Ash trees; the school and between Ash near police station.
 - e. Publicity for COVERTS programs-VT COVERTS sends out a list of programs it is sponsoring and these might be of interest to our community. Ruth asked John to post these on the NCC Facebook page so people can be aware of them. One upcoming program is the AVCC talking about town conservation funds.
6. Announcement: NCC meeting with the Planning Commission is March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.
7. Adjournment-On a motion by Russ, 2nd by Ruth, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15.