

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
September 16th, 2019
MINUTES**

Members Present: Kevin Fife, Christina Beadle, David Krause, Heather Durgin
Other Present: Dr. Tracey Hutton, Town Administrator, Heidi Cole, Administrative Assistant

Having a quorum established Kevin Fife called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Minutes: Beadle/Durgin** moved to approve the minutes of August 12, 2019 as amended
Motion Passed with one abstention.
2. **Conservation Corner:** The Commission discussed ideas for the October articles and came up with an update on the Loons and a hunting safety course. Beadle stated she would get with Mark to see if he could draft up something on the Loons.
3. **Sandogardy Pond:** The Commission discussed the results of the water testing and found that there is human and canine DNA present in the water. The Commission discussed re-testing the water and also testing where the two brooks meet to see where the contamination is coming from.

The Commission decided to wait until next year since most of the camps are closed up and the beach is now closed.

Dr. Hutton said that she would check on applying for a 319 funding EPA Loan to help us do septic testing. Dr. Hutton also recommended to the Commission that they could put some educational material together and go door to door. Durgin mentioned that it may be beneficial to put the test results in there especially since the Pines bring the kids there in the summer for swimming lessons.

Beadle said she would contact UNH about getting the testing bottles back and how far fecal matter can travel in a rain storm, so that they can see where the contamination is the most concentrated.

4. **Trail Update:** Cole stated that Charlie was not able to attend the meeting, but that he wanted them to know that he helped clean up the trails at Knowles Pond.

Chairman Fife stated that there are people bathing in Knowles Pond and he contacted NHDES about it, but unfortunately they do not have the resources to physically catch someone bathing. Chairman Fife suggested putting up a No Bathing Sign, but Dr. Hutton said that we do not have any code on that issue and recommended that we could put up an educational sign at the kiosk. Beadle suggested that we do an overhaul next spring of what kind of signage we should post.

Beadle gave an update about the Loon at Knowles Pond and stated that they were unable to catch the male or female so they left the chick alone and that it eats fine on its own and is as big as the adults are.

Chairman Fife stated concern about a lot of ATV's and dirt bikes on the Sotir Property. Dr. Hutton mentioned having LRPC GPS all of our trails and have NEDC rate them for appropriate uses.

The Commission discussed the Winni Trail and how there is not much trash anymore. Durgin stated she believes homeless people are living there, and that she saw 6 tents. Durgin also stated that two women warned her about a man sharpening a knife further down the trail. Dr. Hutton said that she would get with the Chief to see about the trail.

5. **Other Business:** Beadle told the Commission about UPS wanting to build a distribution center on South Park and that it was near ground water. Dr. Hutton stated that they will be finding out where the ground water is and staying away from that. Chairman Fife asked if they will have a retention pond. Dr. Hutton stated that she is working with the Attorney to get comments transferred and getting a formal app in November and hoping for a complete app in December.

There being no other business meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

Minutes Approved October 21, 2019