

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
October 21, 2019
MINUTES**

Members Present: Kevin Fife, Christina Beadle, Sterling Blackey, Mark Chaffee, Heather Durgin

Other Present: Heidi Cole, Administrative Assistant

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

1. **Minutes: Beadle/Fife** moved to approve the minutes of September 16, 2019 as amended
Motion Passed with one abstention.
2. **Conservation Corner:** The Commission reviewed the hunting safety article and agreed to post it for the next three Fridays. The Commission also agreed to post the article about the Loons for the last three Fridays in November. The Commission discussed posting about Christmas trees for the December article.
3. **Environmental Fact Information:** Ms. Beadle stated that the Environmental Facts she found could be beneficial materials to hand out to the camp owners.

Ms. Beadle stated that she spoke with Tim Whiting from the Waukegan Watershed Advisory Committee concerning Waukegan Cleanup and what steps they took to clean up their lake. Ms. Beadle stated that Tim said that they had the town make a regulation that required every property on Lake Waukegan to have an approved septic system on file with either the Town or State. Those properties that did not have an approved plan had to have their septic's inspected and replaced if they did not pass. Ms. Beadle suggested getting with Jason Durgin to see if he would be interested in pursuing any of these regulations.

Ms. Beadle also mentioned that there are grants up to \$5,000 to help homeowners replace failing septic's. Ms. Beadle stated that for the November meeting she will work on having an array of materials to send out to residents of Sandogardy pond educating them about the contamination issue and their septic's.

Ms. Beadle asked Ms. Cole to check with Dr. Tracey Hutton how she is coming along with polling septic age and location from the Town and State, and where we are at with that.

Ms. Beadle went over the monthly results for Knowles Pond and said there was an alarming jump in August for E.coli present. She stated we need to keep an eye on this as it is becoming an issue. She stated she could check into having UNH do some testing in the spring when it warms up. Ms. Beadle also asked Mark Chaffee if he wanted to reach out to LRPC to see if they would be interested in doing any testing.

4. **Trail Update:** Cole stated that the Selectboard did not want to put up “No Parking This Side of Road” Signs. They stated if there were any issues the Conservation Commission could come to a Selectboard Meeting. Mr. Chaffee mentioned reaching out to residents to ask if they would like to attend the Selectboard meeting to discuss signage. Chairman Fife said he would bring up the issue at the next Open Space Meeting.

Ms. Beadle asked Ms. Cole to check on the concrete pillars that are supposed to go in front of Sotir.

Mr. Chaffee stated the “No Camping” sign at the dock was missing and when we replace it if we could cement it.

Mr. Chaffee stated that all the Loons are officially gone at Knowles Pond.

5. **Other Business:** Chairman Fife stated that loggers are cutting on the backside of Bean Hill and it is a nice selective cut. He also stated that there has been some clear cuts on Shaw Road.

Ms. Beadle stated that an area on Shaker Road has been clear cut. Ms. Cole stated that 471 Shaker Road was cutting to build a home, and that Soda Brook was cutting on Twin Bridge Road to expand their Mobile Home Park. Ms. Beadle asked Ms. Cole to find out what is the trailer to house ratio for the town.

The Commission mentioned the two homes on Knowles Pond Road that were abandoned and what was going to be done with them. Ms. Cole stated that the owners of 76 Knowles Pond Road came in that day to get a demolition permit and they planned on building a new home on that lot.

There being no other business meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

Minutes approved on November 18, 2019