

**NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2022**

**Members Present:** Chair Heather Durgin, Vice Chair Mark Chaffee, and David Krause.

**Members Absent:** Charles Page and Sterling Blackey, therefore a quorum of members was present.

**Alternate Members Present:** Anthony Pucci who will vote due to the absence of members Page and Blackey.

**Others Present:** None

Chair Durgin opened the meeting at 7:14 pm and introductions were made.

**Minutes** –Chaffee/Krause moved and seconded to accept the minutes of January 10, 2022 – Motion Passed

**“Conservation Corner” for the Northfield News** – The board discussed possible topics for the next article which is due by March 7<sup>th</sup>. Chair Durgin will research past articles and will refresh and/or write an article relating to maple sugaring.

**Trail/Conservation Properties update** – It was reported that the Knowles and Sotir trails are active, including snow machine use. There was some discussion regarding parking areas for the various trail systems in the Town noting that they are generally kept clear even with the reduced staff at the Town Highway Department.

**Other Business** – Chair Durgin reported that she has provided the Assistant Town Manager with information needed for the publication of an annual report. She will ask that there be a notation of a vacancy on the commission for an additional alternate member.

Chair Durgin began a discussion relative to funding available to the Commission. She noted that trust funds available to the Commission are \$96,012.77 as of 12/31/21. She also noted that the Town allocated \$1,200.00 in 2022 for the Commissions use. Discussion ensued amongst the members as to the process and purposes the funds can be used for. This discussion included Chair Durgin reciting RSA 36-A:5.

Further discussion ensued regarding the Commissions water testing obligations and Chair Durgin’s conversation with Town officials regarding this topic. She noted that NH DES takes water samples at beach areas on an annual basis. She continued by highlighting the complexities of proper sampling techniques for the additional samples necessary from the water bodies in the Town. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of outsourcing the annual testing process to ensure it is done consistently and accurately and does not rely on the availability of volunteers who might change frequently. Other RSA’s specific to Commission duties were briefly reviewed. After some further discussion it was agreed that each member would review RSA 36 in detail prior to the March meeting and be prepared to discuss more fully at that time.

The members discussed ongoing communications, building access procedures and future meeting dates and times. It was noted that past Commission meetings included receiving an update on Planning Board activities that is no longer being provided and would be helpful to the Commissions work. It was agreed to discuss this further at our next meeting.

Next meeting is Monday March 14, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

**Adjournment** – There being no further business Chaffee/Krause moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm. – Motion passed

**Minutes approved March 14, 2022**