

**NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2022**

Members Present: Chair Heather Durgin, Vice Chair Mark Chaffee, Charles Page, and Anthony Pucci.

Members Absent: David Krause.

Alternate Members Present: None.

Others Present: Northfield resident, Mary Lee

Chair Durgin opened the meeting at 7:12 pm.

Minutes –Page/Chaffee moved and seconded to approve the draft minutes of the June 13, 2022 - Motion passed.

“Conservation Corner” for the Northfield News – After discussion it was agreed to rerun an article from last year, relating to lead poisoning due to use of lead sinkers and lures, for the August edition.

Trail/Conservation Properties update – Charlie explained the testing procedures performed by him and Tony at Knowles Pond. These were done with the assistance of Sara Steiner NH DES. He noted that another round of testing will be conducted in August, and we will obtain the sampling bottles and equipment used in the testing from Ms. Steiner. Much discussion ensued regarding testing performed in the past at both Knowles and Sandogardy Ponds and what type of testing is appropriate for Sandogardy Pond. As part of the discussion, Vice Chair Chaffee contacted past commission member Christina Beadle and placed her on speaker phone. Ms. Beadle clarified that the testing she had been conducting at Sandogargdy Pond and having analyzed at UNH was for the monitoring of fecal matter, possibly resulting in failed septic systems at homes and camps located on the pond. Mark and Charlie asked for contact information for the appropriate person to engage with regarding future testing.

Charlie led general discussion regarding recent activity and events at Knowles Pond including removal of a fire pit at the rope swing and beer can clean up at the rope swing and swimming rock. He also noted the recent tree ladder that has been discussed at a previous meeting as well as overnight camping. He thought some additional signage specific to camping, campfires and trash removal would be helpful. Mark noted that he has the correct bit for removal of the tree ladder at Rocky Top and will get that removed. It was agreed to let the Selectmen know of our concerns of liability to the Town due to the tree ladders and rope swings. Tony agreed to contact Stephanie to determine how best to communicate our concerns to the Selectboard. Charlie continued discussion regarding the ineffective location of existing No Parking signage at Knowles Pond. It was agreed to contact the Town Highway Department to discuss this further. Tony agreed to contact Justin Bernier to coordinate a time to meet.

Other Business – Vice Chair Chaffee reported a recent discussion with Commission member Serling Blackey who shared his concerns regarding the stocking of trout at Knowles Pond and that he is aware of other residents who are also opposed to stocking.

Mary Lee addressed the Commission and requested that we do what we can to solicit a member to join the Upper Merrimack Local Advisory Committee as her term has expired. She shared information regarding UMLAC and its’ mission. She shared an invitation for the monthly meeting

on August 8th to be held at the Northfield Town Hall. After some further general discussion Ms. Lee left the meeting.

Charlie reported that repairs to the dock have been completed, however one support post has broken off and needs to be replaced. He volunteered to pick up the necessary parts and make the repair. Tony reported that the trash can at the parking area on Rand Road does appear to be picked up by Casella on a weekly basis.

Adjournment – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Minutes approved on August 17, 2022