

NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
June 18, 2014
MINUTES

Members present: Dave Krause, Patti Howe, Rich Bellerose, Sterling Blackey and Kevin Fife.

Minutes: Kevin Fife moved, seconded by Sterling Blackey to accept the minute of May 21, 2014 as read. Motion passed.

Trails update: Sterling Blackey reported that the Knowles Pond trails are in good condition. The loons are nesting and buoys have been installed to protect them. It was agreed to go ahead and draw trails on the maps rather than wait for GPS information. Dave Krause will supply the base maps. Eliza Conde reported that a tent and trash were left on the Sotir trail but has been picked up.

The concrete walls at Granite Mills may need revisiting as the one on the left side has enough fill in front of it that someone could drive over it. Members discussed whether to keep the shed, revamp it or try to open it up. No decision was made. During the whitewater kayak/canoe slalom race event the shed was used for storage. Again this organization left the property in perfect condition.

The brush on the water side of the dam has not yet been cut and the beaver contraption has been completely removed. Both items need attention.

Wetlands Ordinance: Dave Krause suggested that the ordinance should comply with the state requirement which is that septic systems need to be 50 feet from poorly drained soils and 75 feet from very poorly drained soils. The current ordinance calls for 75 feet in all soils. Dave also questioned the need for the 50 foot wetlands buffer which can create some hardship, particularly on small lots. He suggested perhaps reducing that buffer for wetlands smaller than 3,000 sq ft. Dave plans to discuss this with the Planning Board.

Correspondence:

- DES – Complete trails notification – for Granite Mills/WRTA
- Environmental News

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza Conde, Secretary

Minutes approved 08-20-2014