

**NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2013**

Members present: Rich Bellerose, Sterling Blackey and Kevin Fife.

Minutes: Kevin Fife moved, seconded by Sterling Blackey to accept the minutes of June 19, 2013 as read. Motion passed.

Knowles Pond Trail Maintenance: In lieu of last month's meeting, members met at Knowles Pond and removed the rope swings and multiple steps and platforms that had been built on the shore. Kevin Fife noted that during the summer many mountain bikers from Highlands use the pond and trails and wondered if we should consider restricting the use to Northfield residents. This was discussed and the consensus was that it is not necessary to have restrictions at this time. The property was purchased for recreational purposes and that is how it is being used. Kevin Fife also asked if Cliff Mills could be reimbursed for his expense in replacing 2 posts on the dock. Rich Bellerose responded that he should have gotten pre-approval, but the Commission can vote on this when a receipt is submitted.

Trails: The Doubleday trail has been relocated so that it is completely within the easement property. A new loop trail connecting the existing 4 wheeler trails has been created on the Sotir property.

Signage: There needs to be about 20 signs for trails at Knowles Pond, 3-4 at Sotir property and 1 at the Doubleday property. C E Grafix gave a quote of \$13-16 per sign made of cedar with lettering or with wood burned letters. Some of the cedar posts will need to be replaced also. It was agreed that the posts can be installed now before the ground freezes and then the signs can be installed when they are ready. Rich Bellerose suggested that we buy one sign now as a sample and then decide on how many to purchase. Funding for the Knowles Pond signs can be from the Knowles Pond Maintenance Fund and the rest can be from the general operating budget.

Review of Management Plans and Ordinances: Members reviewed and made several changes to the proposed plans and ordinances for the Granite Street and Sotir properties. The Plans can be adopted by the Commission at the next meeting and the Ordinances can be sent on to the Selectmen for a public hearing and adoption.

Naming of Granite St. and Sotir properties: After discussion, Rich Bellerose moved, seconded by Sterling Blackey to name the Sotir parcel the "Sotir Conservation Area". Motion passed.

More information is needed on the historical use of the Granite Street property. The names of the various mills and the dam were suggested for the name of the parcel. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza Conde, Secretary

Minutes approved 10-23-2013