

Convened at 6:30 pm on June 10, 2009 in the Brown Public Library's Community Room with Chair Patricia Coppolino and members Russell Barrett, Lawrence Garland, Matt Krebs, Leslie Matthews and Donald Wallace present.

1. The minutes of the May 13, 2009 meeting were amended to include reference to a May 12, 2009 memo from William Lyon, Superintendent of Public Works, to Donald Wallace. The memo included map locations of springs and currently unused water piping on the Cheney Farm (Paine Mountain) lot. The amended minutes were approved on motion by Donald Wallace seconded by Russell Barrett.
2. The planned June 9, 2009 hike of trails on Paine Mountain property was cancelled due to inclement weather and re-scheduled for Tuesday June 16 commencing at 5 pm.
3. Chair Coppolino will attend the June 19 Joint Village and Town Planning Commission public hearing on the draft Northfield Town Plan to represent the Conservation Commission.
4. Chair Coppolino drafted a letter for Commission review to owners of 25 or more acres who are not in the current use program and for all owners of 75 acres or more. The letter's intent is to make these property owners aware of state, federal and private programs of land management assistance, tax incentive and easement opportunities available to interested land owners. The letter is planned for a summer mailing. At a later date a similar letter will be sent to owners of 10 to 24 acres of land describing land management assistance programs they may be interested in as this group of ownerships cumulatively holds significant acreages.
5. The grant to restore trails on the Paine Mountain property requires "in kind" time reports from participating Commission members and other volunteers. Such a form is under development. Russell Barrett distributed maps showing the current trails on Paine Mountain and reported that the grant has 2 parts. Part 1 is the restoration of a 500 by 10 foot wide stretch of trail severely damaged by vehicle use to a near "dug way" condition. A stoned non-vehicular path will be included. Work will be done by the Youth Conservation Corps in late summer and early fall at a cost of \$6500 .Part 2 is for repair of the "hawk watch" lean to and brush clearing in it's immediate vicinity. This part includes \$500 for materials and will be done by volunteer labor. Mr. Barrett said he hopes to use lumber milled from the Dustin's Pasture timber sale for some of these repairs.
6. Leslie Matthews developed sign language alerting motorized vehicle operators that such uses are prohibited on municipal lands and signs for use at points where trails intersect wetlands prohibiting bicycle and motor vehicle use. When finalized the signs will be placed at entry points to municipal land and other sites as needed if authorized by Village Trustees.
7. Leslie Matthews drafted a letter to Norwich University officials advising them that the Commission is developing a management plan for the Paine Mountain property which is

adjacent to Norwich University holdings. Norwich is reportedly developing plans for recreational use of their holdings and cooperative opportunities may exist.

8. The Dog River Geomorphic Study final report will be put on the Commission's website to provide convenient public access to the information. Commission members are asked to review pages 94 and 95 and Table 12 of the report so that future restoration projects can be prioritized and funding sources identified.

9. Other-

Russell Barrett will maintain copies of wildlife habitat maps provided by the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Russell Barrett reports that the present charge to send a child to Conservation Camp is \$200.

The Chair will contact the Berlin Conservation Commission about a future joint meeting to discuss the possibility of coordinating Dog River and Public land projects between the Towns.

Adjourned at 7:59 pm
Next Meeting July 8, 2009

Respectfully Submitted
Lawrence Garland, Secretary
June 15, 2009