

Convened at 6:35 pm on August 12, 2009 in the Brown Public Library Community Room with Chair Patricia Coppolino, Russ Barrett, Lawrence Garland, Pam Knox, Matt Krebs, Leslie Matthews, Don Wallace and Sandy Hyde (guest) present.

- 1) The July 8, 2009 meeting minutes were unanimously approved on motion of Don Wallace seconded by Patricia Coppolino.
- 2) Patricia Coppolino reported that the Village Trustees approved placing signs at Municipal Lands entry points and at sensitive areas (wetlands) urging vehicle user care, expressed satisfaction with seeking public input into land use planning, agreeing to set aside a portion of any timber sale receipts for the Commission and placement of trail cameras if needed to monitor ATV behavior.
- 3) Russ Barrett reported that the planned timber cuts at Dustin's Pasture has been put off due to wet summer conditions until next year. He is working with a neighboring property owner on a more convenient logging ROW than the existing legal ROW.
- 4) Larry Garland provided Commission members with a copy of "Annotated Bibliography of Wildlife Responses to Selected Human Land Use and Recreational Activities" produced for the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife in 1993 (updated in 1998) ;an update of that report for the period 1999-2008, tabular information and a the portion of the report "Effects of recreation on Rocky Mountain wildlife:A review for Montana".
- 5) Local ATV riders will be asked to attend the Commission's September 9 meeting.
- 6) Norwich University has not responded to the Commission's letter requesting planning coordination for Municipal and adjacent Norwich property on Paine Mountain.
- 7) The Agency of Natural Resources has a storm water system mapping project that has no local cost and is available to communities upon request. Director of Public Works Bill Lyon has verbally agreed such a program would benefit Northfield. Scheduling is on a priority basis.
- 8) Russ Barrett reported that the August 6 field trip with an Audubon Society employee to the Paine Mountain property with several Commission members was productive and informative. A report will be available by early winter. A similar trip to the Dustin's Pasture property will be scheduled.
- 9) The format for the wildlife habitat section of the Paine Mountain plan was approved with the suggestion that it be coupled with the existing forest management plan.
- 10) Chair Coppolino reported that the Commission will be asked to assist in the re-writing of Northfield's Zoning Regulations.

11) The Commission unanimously approved spending \$75 for postage to send a letter to property owners on a motion by the Chair seconded by Leslie Matthews. The letter provides information on conservation easements, Vermont Use / Value, and various cost share programs for land owners for forestry and wildlife habitat projects.

12) Russ Barrett will look into prices for permanent signs for Municipal land.

13) Larry Garland will look into ways to raise money through donations to set up a fund to send Northfield children to the state's Conservation Camp.

Adjourned at 7:58 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Lawrence Garland. Secretary
August 14, 2009