**Newbury Conservation Commission Meeting**

**(Unofficial) Minutes 4/9/2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 in the Baldwin Library.

Attendees: Mike Thomas, Dianne Norton, Chelsea Lyons

Guests: John Nininger, Randy Richardson (Upper Valley Trails Alliance), Sandy Mann & Bart Mann

**Natural Resource Guide:** Mike provided correspondence and spoke briefly about Vermont Fish & Wildlife’s release of “Mapping Vermont’s Natural Heritage” book to help communities find conservation solutions. Newbury will be receiving a book and DVD.

**Cross Vermont Trail:** Greg Weston received another $5,000 grant to add to the $18,000 previously received to resurface the trail.

**Financial Report:** Our yearly budget was $800 and we have $700 left for upcoming events.

**Newbury Trails Forum:** The meeting was turned over to Randy Richardson from Upper Valley Trails Alliance to discuss his organization and working with us on the upcoming Trails Forum on Wednesday, April 24 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at Tenney Library. Randy noted:

* Upper Valley Trails Alliance has been available to any Upper Valley organizations needing trails support for the past 20 years
	+ Assist through education, outreach, and stewardship
	+ Provide [www.trailfinder.info](http://www.trailfinder.info) to help people find trails & maps.
	+ No ranking of trails
	+ Only official trails that are approved by the land owner
	+ No cost to towns but costs for actual trailwork
	+ Have many tools to borrow, coordinate volunteers, and coordinate meetings.
* Discussion of our upcoming Trails Meetings
	+ Keep it simple
	+ What are current assets
	+ What’s missing (per needs of the public)
	+ Parking areas (with picnic & trail)
	+ Economic factors
	+ Coordination of signs
* Review of Randy’s handout and questions, map for front of library, laptop notes, etc.
* Michael will work on advertising. Chelsea will post on Facebook.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Submitted by:

Dianne Norton, NCC