

**Conservation Commission- Town of Norfolk  
P.O. Box 552, Norfolk, CT 06058**

**Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair John Anderson at 6:04 p.m. In attendance are John Anderson, Libby Borden, Martha Klein, and Susannah Wood.

**Minutes:** A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to approve the January meeting minutes.

**Correspondence:** the Conservation Commission will likely have an email address in the future from the town but for now will consider using another email, such as Anderson's.

**Action Item:** Klein to check with webmaster re: email account on website.

**Budget and Expenses:** deferred

**Public Comment:** deferred as no members of the public are present.

**Old Business**

Conveyance Bill: Testimony in support of the Conveyance Bill was submitted to the General Assembly on behalf of the Conservation Commission by Shelley Harms.

Invasive Plant Removal at Buttermilk Falls Park: tabled until next meeting.

**Road Salt:**

A meeting is scheduled with Ed Machowski of DEEP on February 27 to review how to use water testing equipment. Wood will notify us of the time.

Water sampling data information was shared by Machowski. Norfolk waters have not been tested since 2016 by the state. He suggests we sample once a month.

Wood moved, Borden seconded, and motion passed unanimously to propose to town selectmen the suggestion to apply "low salt" at water crossings, and post signs at water crossings alerting drivers to "low salt". We also suggest that the salt/sand mixture be swept up in April.

**Action Item:** Wood to discuss with First Selectman Riiska specifically a definition of low salt and areas that we recommend should receive reduced salt treatment.

Invasive Plant Brochure: deferred

Natural Resources Inventory 10 year update:

Klein and Wood will follow up with map updates assigned at last meeting. Borden shared 2018 "Protected Land" map from Norfolk Land Trust. **Action Item:** Klein to share NLT map with group.

**Action Items: Everyone complete your map updates by March meeting.**

Glen Chalder helped update the Plan of Conservation and Development maps, which the town is using. Planning and Zoning have a few maps, and they want to work up a new template and base map. NRI updated maps should have the same base map and template; we can remove the POCD stamp from those maps for publication in the updated NRI. Changes to the maps and printing costs come out of CC budget.

Review of and planning for 2019 activities:

We have an Invasive Plant Talk and Walk on May 11, time to be determined but will be in the afternoon. There is a fee to hold the event at the Hub. We may need to consider a different location such as the library.

**Action Item:** Borden to discuss with the Hub about possibility of holding event at the Hub.

City Meadow Committee:

Next meeting is March 18. Information was submitted from contractors about what was planted but they did not include the information about which plants, shrubs and trees died. A significant percentage of plants placed in City Meadow have died. Contractors didn't include in their recent submission which dead plantings will be replaced. The committee has hired a landscape designer.

Town Owned Land:

Barry Webber of Norfolk Community Association agrees with the idea of more native plantings on the Town Green. Wood will attend the next NCA meeting and follow up with Webber. **Action Item:** Wood will ask Pradhan for recommendations for good native plants, shrubs, etc. for Town Green.

Road Stream Crossings and Culverts:

Anderson sent data on stream crossings and culverts to the CC. The town has a plan to replace broken culverts with better designed culverts (buried in box type, less round pipes). The cost of improved culverts will save the town money in the long road by preventing erosion and road destruction. It may be possible to save money by purchasing culverts in advance, and/or in bulk, by numerous towns or possibly COG to purchase together. Anderson to continue discussions with town officials.

Scenic Roads: deferred

## **New Business**

### **Pesticide spraying in Colebrook**

Colebrook Conservation Commission was on hiatus for a year, then reformed last summer. They contacted Anderson with concerns regarding herbicide spraying at culvert crossings and spraying into the water. Town is using glyphosate. We anticipate that the Colebrook CC will communicate with their town leaders regarding safer weed management.

A reminder was given to review the Action Items, in particular as relates to map updates for the NRI.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Martha Klein, secretary  
March 7, 2019