

Minutes
Norfolk Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 552
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Regular Meeting
Zoom Video Meeting
12/15/21

Present: John Anderson, Libby Borden, Shelley Harms, Martha Klein, Nash Pradhan, Sam Williams, Susannah Wood.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the minutes of the November 17th meeting.

Correspondence: No new correspondence.

Public Comment: None

Budget: Martha reported we have the same amount as stated at the July meeting - \$4085.00

Road Salt Testing: Nothing new to report

North Colebrook Road: There may be funds available through the Build Back Better infrastructure bill for road improvements.

Action Item: Susannah to reach out to NWCD to discuss funding possibilities

Village Green: No action. It was decided we should ask the town arborist to come to a meeting at some point this winter to discuss getting more native trees planted.

Action Item: Nash will get that in motion.

Pollinators: Shelley reported that the Green Team at the Congregational Church is very interested in doing pollinator-friendly plantings on the property and to get behind a town wide effort encouraging No Mow May. There appears to be some resistance to removing the Norway Maples on the property. Botelle School plugs donated by Nash have been planted by Jenna Brown.

Action Item: Shelley to coordinate a joint program with the Green Team on pollinators and pollinator-friendly practices.

NRI: Report continues to progress through editing and mock-up. Stan Civco may be helpful on notable trees. John to review Yale Farm environmental studies for possible dragon fly list. New edition to be dedicated to Bruce and Sue Frisch.

Action Item: The committee members should continue to review the recommendations and the rest of the NRI for any other changes.

Action Item: Martha will send a para to John about waste management and climate

Action Item: Susannah to follow up with Tracy on her list and cc John.

City Meadow: Work on replanting bank with natives replacing invasives to be incorporated into project.

Village Green: review of trees on the green to be scheduled – what needs to go, what to replant with.

Action Item: Nash to contact Matt re the green.

Buttermilk Falls: Nothing new to report.

Invasive Plants: The commission will send a letter to the United Church of Christ supporting the Green Team plan to remove the Norway maples to help educate the congregation on the importance of native trees. Nash will do a walk around and make a planting plan to minimize lawn and install pollinator friendly shrubs/forbs. He also has offered to supply some young sugar maples as replacements. There will be a church sponsored presentation on January 20th through the HUB by Doug Tallamy and members of the commission are asked to join in.

The commission to send a letter to DEEP and cc'ing to Maria Horn and Kevin Witkos that profits from the ash cut on Haystack should be used to treat the inevitable spread of invasives in the wake of the cut. Letter should mention the state statute barring commercial forestry on state park land.

Action Items: Shelley to draft the letter and send to Martha and John.

John to contact the Catholic church and see if they will participate in invasive removal and pollinator friendly plantings.

Susannah to draft letter to DEEP re ash cut.

2022 Programing dates and ideas:

January 5th: HUB presentation on composting by Michael Simpson sponsored by us and by the United Church of Christ.

February 26th: NLT annual meeting program on pollinators

March: Garden presentation? **(Shelley)**

No Mow May

NRI program to introduce the new edition

Summer Friday night on the green – Moths with Brigitte Zacharczenko? **(Susannah)**

Waste Reduction: Martha's flyer is now at Town Hall. Two composters to be distribute on January 5th.

New Business: The commission voted on the 2022 schedule for meetings, establishing the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. until January of 2023 as the regular meeting time. Shelley made the motion, seconded by John. Adopted unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Next meeting 1/19/22

Submitted by Susannah Wood 1/13/21