

Minutes  
Norfolk Conservation Commission  
P.O. Box 552  
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Regular Meeting  
Zoom Video Meeting  
3/17/21

Present: Martha Klein, Susannah Wood, Nash Pradhan, Libby Borden, John Anderson

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

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

**Public Comment:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Budget:** No change

**Road Salt:** Susannah reported she had a useful conversation with a member of the Rhinebeck town environmental committee on the town's efforts to reduce salt use and passed along the names and contact info of the town highway supervisor and the county supervisor. Susannah will touch base with Matt to suggest that Troy and/or Matt get in touch with them to discuss a brining set up for Norfolk.

**Action Item:** Susannah and Mattie to begin testing in as soon as the ice melts enough in late March.

**Village Green:** Nash has drawn up a list of pollinator friendly natives for planting around the Norfolk sign on the green. The commission may contribute some money to the cost of the plants. Libby reported that a new committee has been formed to address beautification of Norfolk, including representatives of the Norfolk Foundation, EDC, Community Assoc. The foundation is putting up \$5000 to this purpose.

**Action Item:** Libby will be a voice for the Conservation Commission on this committee and advocate for the use of native plants.

**Action Item:** Nash will continue to follow up with Marie. He will bring a price list to the next meeting.

**City Meadow:** John showed the commission the plans for the new stairway and platforms going down from the Robertson fountain area along with the planting scheme. The plan is ready to go out for bids.

Libby reported there will be 2 zoom talks, sponsored by the EDC and the Norfolk Foundation, to explain both the history of the project and sketch out how the new features will offer creative ways to enliven the town center.

**Botelle School Meadow:** Nothing new to report

**NRI:** John will be working to finish this up.

**Action Item:** John to get weather data from Russell Russ and set a deadline for completion. Also will interview possible candidate to help with editing the Wordpress files.

**Action Item:** Susannah to reach out to Babs Perkins and see if she has experience with Wordpress.

**Buttermilk Falls:** Nothing new to report

**Waste Management:** Martha suggested doing pamphlets and public outreach. One question is whether we need to form a town committee like the Energy Committee to work on this issue. Susannah brought up the idea of urging the town to look into signing up with Curbside Compost to pick up food waste from bins at the town transfer station.

**Action Item:** Susannah to discuss with Matt

**Public Events for 2021:** The calendar of presentations will be as follows, possibly on Monday evenings:

**May:** Regenerative Gardening

**Action Item:** Nash to look for a speaker

**June:** Home Composting

**Action Item:** Martha to work up a presentation. Should be accompanied by an article in Norfolk Now.

**July:** Plastics (part of plastic-free July)

**Action Item:** Martha to confirm with Anne Hulick

**August:** Sensible bear management

**Action Item:** Susannah to remind Shelley to research a speaker for the bear program

**Action Item:** Martha will do a notice for Norfolk Now's May issue announcing proposed programs

**Invasive Plants:** Plant exchange at the Norfolk Farmer's Market in June. Will also have information about composting.

**Action Item:** Shelley to organize with help from other members of the commission

**Other Conservation Commissions' activities:**

**Action Item:** Susannah to contact Connie and continue researching.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Susannah Wood, 3/23/21