

Minutes
Norfolk Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 552
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Regular Meeting
Zoom Video Meeting
8/19/20

Present: Martha Klein, Susannah Wood, John Anderson, Libby Borden, Mattie Vandiver-Pace

Absent: Shelley Harms, Nash Pradhan

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: Norfolk Now is interested in doing a story about the update of the Natural Resources Inventory.

Action item: Martha will remind John to talk to Jeremy Whithnell

Budget: No word from Town Hall on the budget

Road Salt: Susannah is continuing to test with the help of Mattie. They found an unusually high reading on the outflow from Kelly Swamp, probably due to a hole in the road. This has been reported to Town Hall.

Village Green: Nothing to report.

City Meadow: Nothing to report.

Botelle School Meadow:

Action Item: John will monitor the meadow to see how the timing of the mowing has affected wildflowers.

NRI: Stacy Demming at HVA is working on the critical and key habitat maps.

Action Item: John to check in on progress in October.

Public Events: Martha has approached Mike Callahan about another online program and he is willing to do a repeat.

Action Item: Martha will see about scheduling a second program in December.

Action Item: Susannah to offer to write up an interview with Mike Sconyers and Molly Ackerley about their buckthorn removal efforts for Norfolk Now.

Invasive Plants: Nothing to report

Waste Reduction: Martha reported on an effort underway at DEEP to explore ways to reduce the waste stream burden by organizing a state wide effort [Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM)]. It will examine the whole panoply of materials that get thrown out or “recycled” and how to lessen the amount of waste across the board. A series of workshops open to the public is posted on the DEEP website. Many municipalities have already joined this coalition and Martha has contacted Matt about the waste issue here in Norfolk but has not heard back yet. As for establishing a town-wide composting program, it was agreed we need more information about what people do with their food scraps and how much of our waste stream could be composted.

Action Item: Martha is reaching out to Blue Earth to see if they will do a presentation for us.

Action Item: Libby to reach out to Kelly Hughes re town waste reduction efforts

New Member: It was unanimously agreed to recommend to Matt Riiska that Mattie Vandiver-Pace be appointed as an alternate member of the Commission. She will receive official notification from Town Hall and then can call Linda Perkins to be sworn in.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Susannah Wood, 10/7/20