

Minutes
Norfolk Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 552
Norfolk CT 06058
conservationcommission@norfolkct.org
Regular Meeting
Zoom Video Meeting
1/19/22

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

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the minutes of the December 15th meeting.

Correspondence: There was a commission email concerning adding No Mow May to 2022 programs

Public Comment: None

Budget: There was a discussion of the 2022-2023 budget which must go in to Town Hall early in February. We will request the same amount as in 2021-2022. It was suggested to make a general heading of “programs” for activities other than invasive species control. For the remaining current budget year:

Nash will submit a bill for the \$80 cost of pollinator plants donated to Botelle.

\$900 is set aside for the NRI.

A motion was made to spend \$400 on additional 20 to 30 blue bird boxes and a few kestrel boxes for distribution around town. (moved-Shelley, seconded – Susannah, unanimously adopted).

Road Salt Testing: Nothing new to report. Susannah will submit data next meeting. Colebrook seems to be putting out a lot of salt, especially along Sandy Brook.

Action Item: Susannah to reach out to Colebrook Land Trust to give them a heads up

North Colebrook Road:

Action Item: Susannah to reach out to Matt/NWCD to discuss action on the invasives.

Pollinators: Norfolk Land Trust program on Feb 26th will be on pollinators: Zoom through the HUB at 4 p.m.

Nash did a walk around the UCC property. Plans underway for pollinator plantings on church property close to the green.

Program and discussion on Norway maples has been postponed but Shelley urges everyone to watch the Doug Tallamy presentation. <https://youtu.be/cYMeZ-SucVs>

NRI: John has a draft ready to circulate to the commission.

Action Item: Nash to meet with Stan Civco re notable trees

City Meadow: No news to report

Village Green: No news to report

Buttermilk Falls: Workday in April

2022 Programing dates and ideas:

Possible use of commission funds could be helping churches with money for pollinator plantings. To be discussed further.

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

March: Garden presentation? possibly someone from White Flower Farm

April: Buttermilk Falls work day

April or May: possible presentation by Tracy Zarillo about bumble bees (**Susannah**)

No Mow May

June: Plant exchange at farmer's market (June 11th?) Article about invasives and plant exchange should go into Norfolk Now in May.

NRI program to introduce the new edition. Timing to be determined

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

Waste reduction

Invasives: Could do something monthly in Norfolk Now, highlighting one invasive plant relevant to the season and how to best control it?

Action Item: Nash to get recent publication from NOFA on invasive control strategies

UMASS doing a presentation on invasive worms in our woodlands.

Action Item: Nash to send link

Another possibility would be a survey of invasives on town lands. Discussion of phragmites. A suggestion was made to see how the control effort in the City Meadow goes.

Waste Reduction: Members of the commission are asked to please watch January 5th HUB presentation if they didn't see it. (Available through the HUB website)
Liz Allyn of the UCC Green team wants to tackle waste reduction and to learn more about it.

Action Item: Susannah to put Liz in touch with Martha

New Business: Discussion of a letter to the Catholic church about removing invasives. There are 2 burning bushes and Norway maples, especially on the southern property line. Commission will consider financial aid to take out the big Norway maple.

Action Item: John to reach out in person before the commission sends any letter.

Shelley announced she was not going to serve another term and will be off the commission as of February.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Next meeting 2/16/22

Submitted by Susannah Wood 2/8/22