

**Conservation Commission, Town of Norfolk, P.O. Box 552, Norfolk, Connecticut 06058
Monthly Meeting, Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.

In attendance: John Anderson, Libby Borden, Martha Klein, Nash Pradhan, Sam Williams, Susannah Wood.

Review and approve minutes of last meeting: Susannah made corrections to the minutes which will be revised and resent. With two corrections, April minutes are unanimously approved.

Correspondence: No updates

Budget and Expenses: John requested \$900 to pay Aaron for his work on NRI update. We already agreed to fund updates to the second edition of the NRI so this was approved.

Public comment period : No members of the public were present.

Old Business

Road salt testing: Susannah trained Sam for water conductivity testing last month. Susannah has been in contact with Doolittle Lake Company regarding water testing at Doolittle Lake. Water testing can be expensive at larger sites; heavy metals can be costly to test. It was recommended to do more testing in areas where Susannah has recorded high readings. Possibility of using automatic sensors discussed; these could be used in other areas of town. Cost is unknown. Discussion of contaminated private wells on Route 272 and Ashpohtag Road. Questions raised about the possibility of engaging DEEP in testing of private wells, and about testing on the Blackberry River currently. In the past, Ed Machowski alerted the town to concerns about runoff into the Blackberry River, which had high readings. It was noted that City Meadow water will flow into the Blackberry River.

North Colebrook Rd./Road drainage : No updates.

NRI: Payment to Aaron discussed.

City Meadow: John reported on the meeting held on April 13th; the committee will be dissolved and a new group called the Friends of City Meadow will be formed, primarily to raise funds to care for the Plaza, remove invasives from sloping bank, etc.

Village Green: Nash is engaged with the Church Green Group which is considering native plantings near Village Green.

Botelle School Wet Meadow: **Action Item:** John to contact Shawn regarding mowing.

Pollinators: May 16th bumble bee virtual event was posted by the Hub in Norfolk Now, and on NCC Facebook page.

Buttermilk Falls Park/Invasive Plants: New work day is June 11th from 9-11 a.m. **Action Item:** Martha will email reminder.

2022 Activities: Bird boxes need to be installed by Nash and John. Discussion of donating more books to the library, particularly children's books about nature. Susannah will inquire at the library. Susannah looking into printing hand-outs for plant exchange.

Waste Reduction Activities: Promotion in May "Norfolk Now" for invasive plant exchange will include information about raffle for home composter giveaway on June 18.

Haystack Mountain EAB logging: No updates

New Business

Solar Installation on Town Farm: Discussion of project occurred at NCC May 3 special meeting, and IWC meeting the prior evening. Town meeting for a vote on the solar project will happen in June or July. Susannah will draft a submission for our consideration, to be discussed at a special meeting on May 23rd from 6 to 6:30 p.m., scheduled by Martha.

Document of Chair Responsibilities & Other Role Responsibilities: Deferred.

Recruit new members: Deferred to June Meeting.

Adjourn 6:39 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Samuel Williams, secretary, on May 17, 2022