

Minutes
Norfolk Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 552 Norfolk CT 06058
conservationcommission@norfolkct.org
Regular Meeting
Zoom Video Meeting
10/9/2023

Present: Shelley Harms, John Anderson, Nash Pradhan, Bill Ticineto.

Public Guest: None.

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

Correspondence: None.

Review and approve minutes of last meeting: September minutes approved.

Budget and expenses:

Budget spreadsheet has been distributed to NCC members.

Availability of funding reallocation is allowed.

Town hall (Tara or Barbara) must be made aware of any reallocation.

Public Comment: None.

Zoom meeting protocol: Rules on how to work with attending guests were discussed.

Firehouse redevelopment: Matt was asked about the marking of the footprint and said it will be done by the engineers. He also stated the building will be energy efficient.

Windows and bird strike mitigation was also discussed.

Permeable paving and wetland boundaries are still issues that needs to be resolved.

Continuation of the Firehouse Public Hearing will be on October 25, 2023, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Road Salt Testing: Susannah - ongoing testing.

Action Item: Susannah to continue testing through November.

North Colebrook Road: Knotweed has been cut down to ground level and covered with black plastic. Susannah sent a letter to Inland Wetlands regarding the dumping on the roadside by public works.

Action Item: Susannah to continue discussion with Inland Wetlands.

Village Green: Nothing new.

Invasive shrubs along the Botelle/Ells Crane border: Strategy is to start clearing and cut stump application.

Action Item: Libby to contact Molly/Land Trust.

Botelle Garden: Libby will report on her good meeting with the school and Lisa Auclair.

Norfolk Country Club: Nothing new.

2023 Activities:

Bluebird Boxes: Permission has been granted to install boxes at the Country Club.

Action Item: Shelley to contact Country Club for installation.

Threats to insects talk: Susannah to schedule library slide show for February.

Friends of the City Meadow: The goal is to restore the ecological function of the meadow to a native habitat. The project may take multiple years to be successful. Estimates for Invasive control costs are being reviewed. Additional fundraising may be needed to supplemental existing town budget and grants. Rather than mowing the best practice is a targeted herbicide application (rather than broad spraying).

Action Item: John to continue dialogue with "Friends of the Meadow".

Beech tree disease out reach program: Educate public about diseases effecting Beech trees

Action Item: Susannah to arrange talk at the HUB.

NRI launch: John looking into a winter talk at the library to educate Norfolk about the NRI.

NRI distribution: Update the website to allow PDFs of specific categories to be downloaded.

Action Item: John to work with Arron on cost and implementation.

Invasive out reach program: Residents continue to sign up for on sight removal education.

Action Item: Bill to look into direct contact with residents with obvious invasive issues.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Next regular meeting 11/13/2023 6:00 PM.

In person at the Norfolk HUB.

The meeting can also be accessed via the recurring Zoom link for those who can not attend in person.

Submitted by Bill Ticineto