

Minutes  
Norfolk Conservation Commission  
P.O. Box 552 Norfolk CT 06058  
conservationcommission@norfolkct.org  
Regular Meeting  
Zoom Video Meeting  
March 11, 2024



**Present:** Susannah Wood, Libby Borden, Shelley Harms, John Anderson, Nash Pradhan, Bill Ticineto.

**Public Guest:** None.

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Review and approve minutes of last meeting:** February minutes approved.

**Budget and expenses:** The annual budget has been distributed.

**Action Item:** Susannah will consult with Matt as to whether we can keep the same budget amounts for the 2024-2025 budget year.

Susannah made a motion, seconded by Shelley that the NCC should use funds to promote the "Invasive of the month" ad campaign. Rates for a 1/3 page in the Norfolk Now are seven months for \$500. The motion was approved with the condition that it be paid upfront with the 2024 budget

Shelley made a motion, seconded by Libby that the NCC should use funds to promote the multi-group funded play "A sense of Wonder." Currently the amount requested is \$500. The motion was approved with the condition that NCC is credited as a sponsor.

**Public Comment:** None

**Firehouse redevelopment:** Planning and Zoning is scheduled to vote March 13 on a complete decision.

**Road Salt Testing:** Testing will begin late March or early April.

**North Colebrook Road:** Nothing new.

**Action Item:** Susannah to talk with Matt.

**Norfolk Country Club:** Nothing new.

**Jeanne Jones composting program:** Information is being gathered.

**Action Item:** Susannah to contact Jeanne.

**Connecticut's "nickel-per-nip" program:** Are there funds available for Norfolk?

**Action Item:** Susannah to talk with Matt.

**Loon Meadow:** Concern about deforesting and herbicide activity but is on private land with an easement that allows logging. Town has no authority over this activity.□

**Invite Tree warden to attend an NCC meeting :** Confirm Matthew Klimkosky will attend.  
**Action Item:** Nash/John to arrange date.

**Solar Field Development:** Are there native plants to be salvaged before excavation begins? Solar company made a commitment to plant cleared areas with natives. NCC to monitor that situation to make sure they keep the promise and use appropriate native species  
**Action Item:** John to discuss with Matt

### **2024 Activities:**

**Bluebird Boxes:** A student at the regional high school has volunteered to provide more boxes. While there are places to put them, ongoing maintenance is a concern. We already have many to look after. CC decided against taking them.

**Friends of the City Meadow:** Next meeting is April 2nd. Vegetation maintenance will begin in early June.

**Invasive of the month:** Norfolk Now ad budget approved. Layouts being prepared for various media forms.

**PFAS talk:** The date of the talk will be confirmed in April.

**Light pollution talk:** Susannah proposed that the commission should encourage the P&Z to pursue the idea of a master plan of lighting for Norfolk with specific criteria followed by an audit of all existing town lights and mothballing those that don't meet the criteria.

### ***Conservation Commission Spring Series Events:***

**Insects in Peril talk:** April 6th, Saturday 4 PM - Library.

**Natural Resource Inventory Discussion:** April 25, Thursday 5:30 PM - Library

**Invasive outreach talk:** May 4th, Saturday 10 AM - HUB.

**Beech Leaf Disease talk:** May 18th, Saturday 4 PM - Library

**Friday night on the Green - Booth sponsored by the NCC:** Is there an existing event that the NCC can set up a booth for education and distribution of native plants?

**Action Item:** Bill to contact the HUB regarding events.

**Action Item:** Nash to contact Earth Tones about selling plants at the event.

**Plant exchange:** Robertson Plaza could be an alternate venue for the Farmers Market.

**Action Item:** Bill to contact Andra regarding Robertson Plaza events.

**Action Item:** Nash to contact Pride Nursery for plants.

**Action Item:** Susannah to confirm Library Associate's street fair day to avoid a conflict.

**Fill alternate slot at the NCC:** A specific person of interest was discussed. The NCC would like to meet the person for further discussion.

**Action Item:** John to invite them to an NCC meeting.

**CT Botanical Society Newsletter:** Article about how woodland edge shrubs can deter invasive plants from entering the forest is worthwhile reading.

**Action Item:** Contact Susannah or John if you would like to read the article.

**CT Botanical Society meeting:** Open to the public, April 6th 9 AM .1 PM.  
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. 123 Huntington Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
<https://portal.ct.gov/caes>

**Hall Meadow Brook clean-up:** A letter to the Norfolk Now by Sloane Klevin has brought an environmental issue to the NCC's attention. The impact, responsibility and jurisdiction were discussed

**Action Item:** Susannah to talk to Matt.

**Action Item:** John to look into who should be contacted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Next regular meeting April/8/2024 6:00 PM  
*In Person at the HUB or by Zoom.*

Submitted by Bill Ticineto  
March 13, 2024

*Bill Ticineto*