

Minutes  
Norfolk Conservation Commission  
P.O. Box 552 Norfolk CT 06058  
conservationcommission@norfolkct.org  
Regular Meeting  
In Person at the HUB  
July 8, 2024



**Present:** Susannah Wood, Libby Borden, Becky Eaton, John Anderson, Nash Pradhan, Bill Ticineto.

**Public Guest: Matt Klimkosky - Norfolk Tree Warden.**

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

**Correspondence:** UCONN has list of native plant nurseries in the state.

**Action Item:** Nash to share with commission.

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

**Budget and expenses:** Susannah will send current budget.

**Public Comment:** Matt Klimkosky acknowledged that working with the NCC in an advisory capacity would be beneficial.

**Road Salt Testing:** Testing for multiple chemicals has begun, readings were low. The results may have been affected by heavy rain.

**North Colebrook Road:** Knotweed is still active.

**Action Item:** Susannah and Bill to add more tarps and continue removal.

**Action Item:** Nash to obtain heavy duty black plastic.

**Composting program:** Nothing new. Jeanne Jones has queried Salisbury and reports the economics are not right for Norfolk to have its own community composting. Jennifer Almquist has not responded as of yet on her research.

**Wetlands Enforcement Officer:** Nothing new. The NCC would like to meet with new WEO, one concern is that pre-existing violations will be re-mediated.

**Action Item:** Susannah has contacted Karl Nilson and he is happy to meet.

A date to be set up shortly.

**Solar Field Development:** No word yet on what the new company is doing and what the replanting plan is.

**Action Item:** John to follow up with Matt Riiska.

**NCC self-promotion:** Use social media to promote events and campaigns.

**Action Item:** Shelley, Susannah, Bill and Becky to continue posting.

**NCC Invasive Removal Team:** Organize a group of volunteers to remove invasive plants. Roadside areas are a major concern. The concept of an "Invasive Removal Day" in the fall will be explored.

**Replanting 10 Station Place with pollinator plants:**

**Action Item:** Susannah to speak with Colleen Hellerman this coming week.

**Friends of the City Meadow:** Removal of phragmites is ongoing. August 6<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting.

**Light pollution:** Susannah is sending a letter to P&Z asking that the commission do a lighting analysis of town-owned lights referencing Leo Smith and DarkSky data about reducing light pollution.

**NRI section of the month in HUB email calendar:** This program should start in November.

**Action Item:** Bill will contact the HUB.

**Special Meeting of Norfolk Conservation Organizations:**

An environmental educational program for kids titled "Bio Blitz" has been proposed as a joint project along with an environmental forum for Earth Day like the one held in 2024.

**Action Item:** Susannah will attend a Bio Blitz at Sharon Audubon July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Rails to Trails:** The NCC recommends that trail personnel complete a shrub ID workshop.

**Action Item:** Nash and John to pursue.

**Jumping Worms:** Susannah wrote educational articles for the Norfolk Now and will post on Facebook.

**Beech leaf disease:** Beech trees can be treated with the systemic fungicide "Reliant", as a method of preserving beech biodiversity. The phosphite in the product strengthens the tree's resistance.

**Action Item:** Contact Susannah if anyone wants instructions on how to do the trunk spray.

**2024 Activities:**

**Jumping Worm presentation:** with Dr. Annise Dobson from Yale School of the Environment - TBA

**Moth Night with GMF:** Saturday, August 31st, at the Manor House Inn, 69 Maple Ave.

**New Business**

John has found Japanese stilt grass growing along the road near the cemetery across from the state garage on 272. He says now is the time to pull it. He will reach out to the commission for assistance.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Submitted by Bill Ticineto July 9, 2024 *Bill Ticineto*