



Minutes  
Norfolk Conservation Commission  
P.O. Box 552 Norfolk CT 06058  
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Special Meeting  
In Person at the HUB  
November 18 , 2024

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

**Public Guest:** None.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Correspondence:** None.

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

**Budget and expenses:** Nothing new.

**1. Road Salt Testing:** No testing since October, mild weather may permit more testing before winter.

**Action Item:** Susannah to contact Matt regarding the environmental and financial benefits of "brining" rather the application of road salt

**2. North Colebrook Road:** Nothing New. Responsibility and legal rights of Aton Forest clean up needs to be determined.

**Action Item:** Billy Gridley to contact town authorities. Susannah to follow up with him.

**3. Composting program:** Nothing New. Jennifer Almquist wants to promote community composting. She wants to organize a presentation at the HUB by Jennifer Heaton-Jones, a representative of the Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority, to speak about solar-powered composting. The commission is happy to co-sponsor it.

**4. Wetlands/Zoning Enforcement Officer:** Susannah and John scheduled a meeting with Stacey Sefcik.

**Action Item:** Susannah and John meeting Stacey on Thursday.

**5. Solar Field Development:** Seeding has been done both inside and outside of the fenced area. Some pollinators were used, proper maintenance will determine the success.

**Action Item:** There will be a ribbon cutting day this November, NCC members are encouraged to attend. Date TBD.

**Action Item:** John will monitor the planting in the spring.

**6. NCC self-promotion:** NCC to continue publicizing projects and encourage community engagement. The NCC meet with Hank Gruner to learn how other towns engage with the public.

**Action Item:** John to contact Hank to set up meeting with the NCC.

**Action Item:** Shelley will contact Alec Linden to contribute articles.

**7. NCC Invasive Removal Team:** Four truckloads of buckthorn were removed from Barbour Woods. There is more to do.

**Action Item:** Norfolk Land Trust to follow up on someone to cut the large buckthorn.

**8. Replanting 10 Station Place with pollinator plants:** Susannah contacted Colleen Hellerman about the planting plan, she has not heard back. She also wrote to Colleen re the abundant yellow iris in her part of the Tobey Brook. Nash will create a plan for spring planting.

**Action Item:** Susannah to continue reaching out to Colleen Hellerman.

**9. Friends of the City Meadow:** Planting with natives started in October, very good progress.

**10. Light pollution:** Susannah contacted Kate Johnson regarding the lighting at the affordable housing on Shepard rd. The concern is they are not an environmentally friendly temperature range. The same issue exists at Mountainside Center

**Action Item:** Susannah to follow up with Kate.

**Action Item:** Susannah to contact Matt to get the name of the Mountainside manager.

**11. NRI chapter of the month:** Links to the NRI on line will be promoted via the HUB and other social media. This is scheduled to start in November.

**Action Item:** Susannah, John and Bill working on content.

**12. Special Meeting of Norfolk Conservation Groups:** Discussion of using the green map to combine mapping of invasives with other mapping layers.

**13. Rails to Trails:** Public promotion of Rails to Trails to expand.

**14. Jumping Worms:** Susannah has reached out to Annise Dobson as a guest speaker for spring 2025. The NCC would like to create a list of nurseries that distribute worm free mulch.

**Action Item:** Susannah to continue to pursue such a presentation.

**15. Beech leaf disease:** Nothing new. Susannah and Wiley Wood are treating trees with applications of a phosphite product as advised by Dr. Bob Marra in order to preserve some intra-species diversity.

**Action Item:** Susannah to contact Dr. Bob Marra.

**16. Stilt Grass:** The NCC has completed this season's removal on multiple roadsides. Education of preventive maintenance to be discussed.

**Action Item:** Invite Matt to the January NCC meeting to discuss.

**17. Purple Loosetrife:** Nothing new.

**18. Licensed Pesticide Applicators:** Bill is in contact with DEEP to become licensed for pesticide application.

**19. Mapping and removal of invasive plants:** Becky is working with the HVA to learn how mapping can aid in the removal of Invasive plants along water ways.

**Action Item:** Becky will contact Robert Phillips.

**20. Scenic Road designation:** Preserve and protect native wildlife through the state Scenic Road Designation program. Westside Road will be pursued for designation.

**Action Item:** Shelley and Susannah to start the process.

**21. Beaver dam protection:** Town road crews have used heavy equipment on private property without permission. This is a violation of Inland Wetlands Agency policy.

**Action Item:** NCC to invite members of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Wetlands Agency to discuss.

**21. Calendar of meetings 2025:** The meeting dates for the 2025 calendar was presented. Libby made a motion to approve, it was seconded by Becky and approved by all.

**2024 Activities:**

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

***New Business***

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Submitted by Bill Ticineto November 21, 2024

*Bill Ticineto*