

Minutes
Norfolk Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 552 Norfolk CT 06058
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Regular Meeting
Zoom Video Meeting
12/11/2023



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

Public Guest: None.

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Correspondence: Susannah forwarded an email to NCC members from Matt regarding a Nature Conservancy \$50,000 grant program.

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

Budget and expenses: Susannah requested to be reimbursed \$235 for an expanded water testing kit, request was approved.

Public Comment: None.

NCC Monthly Meeting Schedule: Susannah submitted the 2024 schedule maintaining the 2nd Monday of each month at 6 PM. The option to meet via Zoom, "in person" or hybrid will be announced in the agenda for each meeting.

Budget review: The budget has been distributed to NCC members.

A reallocation to fund "Conservation Conferences" was agreed upon, the amount TBD.

Firehouse redevelopment: The next meeting is with Planning and Zoning. NCC members voiced an interest in being able to attend P&Z and Wetland Commission meetings via Zoom.

Road Salt Testing: Susannah distributed results which show the dilution impact of a very wet/rainy season. Matt has asked the road crews to use discrimination in salt application. Ongoing testing will include a broader range of pollutants.

Broader geographic locations of testing was suggested.

Action Item: John to send Susannah his contact at DEEP fisheries.

Action Item: Susannah to contact DEEP regarding the sharing of their data.

North Colebrook Road: Town road crew to remove debris next year. NCC will inquire about future removal, disposal practices and regulations.

Action Item: Susannah to contact Matt.

Norfolk Country Club: Susannah to send to the country club the organic maintenance company recommended by Nash

CACIWIC and CIPWIG interaction:

Shelley: Attended CACWIC - Hank Gruner highlighted how North Western Connecticut has a responsibility to maintain native habitat.

Action Item: Shelley to request the library to obtain a book co-written by Gruner.

Nash: Attended a seminar on light pollution, the speaker is interested in giving a talk in Norfolk.

Action Item: Nash to arrange date and venue.

John: Highlights included-

Devices to control beaver at culverts that could be put to use in Norfolk.

Small plantings of milkweed along roadsides and elsewhere can enhance Monarch butterfly migration.

Native plants are becoming much more available at garden nurseries

2024 Activities:

Bluebird Boxes: Boxes in the city meadow need to be higher.

Action Item: Nash to raise boxes.

Threats to insects talk: April 6th, Saturday 4 PM - at the library. WIN weekend.

Friends of the City Meadow: *Next week* - December 18th, 6-8 PM

A public meeting at the HUB to discuss the goals and work strategy going forward.

Beech tree disease talk: Dr. Marra will talk about Beech leaf disease, most likely in May.

Action Item: Susannah to arrange talk at the library.

PFAS talk: A guest speaker will talk about PFAS legislation.

Action Item: Susannah to arrange talk at the library or HUB.

Light pollution talk: A guest speaker will talk about negative effects of light pollution.

Action Item: Nash to arrange talk at the library or HUB.

Invasive outreach program: Invasive removal talk by Bill, April 27th at the HUB, 10:30 > 11:30.

Invasive of the month: Shelley put forth the idea of promoting invasive awareness.

Action Item: Shelley and Bill to coordinate with Christal at the HUB.

DEEP open space and recreation plan: To be distributed amongst the NCC.

Action Item: Susannah to email to members.

NRI: Library talk about the NRI followed by a launch party.

Action Item: John to arrange date.

NRI Christmas promotion: Encourage people to gift the NRI for the holidays.

Available at the Iron Bank, town hall and library for \$30.

Action Item: Shelley to post on social media.

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Next regular meeting 1/8/2024 6:00 PM via Zoom.

Submitted by Bill Ticineto 12/13/2023 *Bill Ticineto*