

Norfolk Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes  
P.O. Box 552 Norfolk CT 06058  
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In Person at the HUB  
November 10, 2025



**Present:** Susannah Wood (Chair), Bill Ticineto(Secretary), John Anderson, Becky Eaton, Nash Pradhan

**Absent:** Libby Borden, Shelley Harms

**Public Guest:** None.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Susannah at 6:03 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by John to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Becky. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Susannah reported having sent letters of thanks to Phil Lovett, Richard Byrne (Cemetery Commission), and Kate Johnson (Affordable Foundation for Norfolk Living) for their collaboration in conservation efforts. Kate responded positively on behalf of the Foundation board.

**Budget and Expenses:** Susannah will circulate the latest budget report from the Town.

**Old Business**

**1. Invasive Species Control** – Ongoing work at Botelle School fields. Winter rye seeding and site preparation to continue with possible assistance from the town crew. Discussion included use of native roses (*Rosa virginiana*) for slope stabilization, and potential installation of biodegradable erosion control wattles.

**2. Mowing and Maintenance Planning** – Commission discussed the need for a coordinated town mowing schedule to support invasive control. Action to develop a map of invasive sites and associated maintenance plans.

**3. Botelle School Meadow** – To be mowed late March or early April, ideally when ground remains frozen to protect moss layer. Sean and Henry to coordinate mowing schedule. Plan future coordination meeting with Henry Tyrell and public works staff.

**4. Affordable Housing Project** – No new updates; to be revisited in spring regarding knotweed management.

**5. Seed Funding Opportunities** – Susannah to contact the Evan Hughes Foundation (grants reopen 2026) and AKC Foundation (application due February) for possible funding toward native seed and restoration efforts.

**6. Beaver Activity** – Ongoing flooding near Mountain and Westside Roads. Town has removed dams, but beavers continue rebuilding. Future culvert replacement may aid water flow; no immediate action possible.

**7. Rails to Trails** – Awaiting state approval before local work begins. No action required at this time.

**5. Climate Corps Collaboration** – Discussion on proposing new project ideas for 2026.

**Action Items – Old Business**

- Becky to follow up with Henry and Sean regarding soil preparation and mowing schedule.
- Becky to obtain about 10 erosion wattles (biodegradable) for hillside stabilization.
- Commission to draft site-specific invasive species map and treatment plan to involve the town crew in roadside mowing of certain areas.
- Susannah to prepare grant inquiries for Evan Hughes and AKC Foundations.
- Members to review Climate Corps website for project ideas and report back next meeting.

#### **Action Items – Outreach**

- John to draft appreciation letter to Eagle Scout Daniel Moran and cemetery project team.
- Becky to submit a short news item for the town newsletter and Norfolk Now highlighting cemetery project.
- John and Becky to develop content ideas for local conservation education outreach.

#### **Presentations and Outreach**

- Upcoming Larry Weaner presentation scheduled for November 19, 2025. Bill and John to coordinate setup and promotion.
- Discussion on future public outreach via local media to highlight ongoing conservation efforts, including native species promotion and to continue to give credit to volunteer efforts.
- Plan to recognize Eagle Scout Daniel Moran for restoration work at the Old Catholic Cemetery. Letter of appreciation to be drafted.
- It was agreed that the commission would again partner with Great Mountain Forest to host a Friday Night on the Green next summer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

The next meeting is 12/8/2025 — 6:00 PM at the HUB (In-Person/Zoom)

Submitted by Bill Ticineto November 13, 2025

*Bill Ticineto*