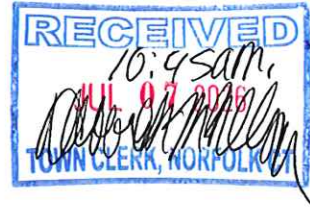


Norfolk Conservation Commission
Minutes for Jun 8, 2026



Chaired by: John Anderson

In attendance: Libby Borden, Bill Tacineto, Becky Eaton

Approval of previous minutes

Correspondence and Communication

No correspondence reported

Budget and Expenses

Libby reported 2025 budget remaining. Year ending mid-June.

Invasive Species/Native Planting

Botelle Native Planting of Embankment Project

Volunteers (Hartley Mead, Dave Cusick, Daryl Eaton, Kyle Anderson) joined commission members John Anderson and Becky Eaton and dug up native roses and dogwood under Nash's guidance at Holly Kempner's in Sharon.

Hopefully to be planted in July.

Unfortunately weeds have grown in area for planting. Help is needed for removal.

Vote was taken to spend up to \$500 on worker to remove weeds.

Wood chips will be sprayed on.

Action items: *Becky will hire Kyle Anderson to help with weed removal.*

Becky will coordinate wood chips with Troy.

Botelle Invasive removal ongoing project

Plan for repeated cutting of knotweed throughout summer.

Members of town crew to help cut large stand near edge of school grounds.

Mugwort - cut and cover with tarp, then wood chips.

Action items: *Becky will coordinate with Troy for large patch work date.*

Becky will select dates for executing mugwort and knotweed next steps.

Becky will order black plastic for smothering mugwort.

Japanese Stiltgrass

Todd Mervosh assessed stiltgrass roadside situation. Hartley Mead and Sophia Nathanson in attendance.

Action item: Becky to coordinate second visit for treatment demonstration,

Botelle Billings Pollinator Garden Restoration

Plants to be purchased.

Vote to spend up to \$150 on plants.

Action item: Becky to pick up plants and coordinate with Bea Tirrell and Christina Astrove for planting.

John Anderson reported Bob Gilchrist can create a map of school grounds.

Suggested a small group of commission members work on this.

Becky Eaton is setting up invasive plant review by Tom Zetterstrom with the town road crew.

NNA activities

Town Hall garden watering schedule will be recirculated.

Clethra shrubs are dead. Nash will replace them.

Excess mulch will be removed.

Bill Tacineto brought up dead trees on Emerson. Discussion followed.

John Anderson suggested we use some of our budget for this.

Libby brought up protection for trees when first planted. Lines help protect planting area.

Action items: Bill to follow-up with Nash on replanting plan. John to check in with the tree warden.

Intern volunteer

Sophia Nathanson has begun surveying town roadsides recording data using Epicollect. It will be entered into a project of Roadside Invasives set up by Stacy Deming at HVA.

She will also be marking no mow zones agreed upon by road crew supervisor, Tory Lamere. Pink to signal stop mowing, blue to indicate resume mowing.

Seed Funding opportunities

Gift from AKC is now available to us in our budget.

No immediate need for seed.

Rails to Trails update

Protect finally received approval and firm has been selected to do the work. He reported on the long history of the project. Delays by the state led to higher prices, leading to the need for an additional grant. Group is hoping the NCC participate with some native planting and signage at the parking area and the path leading leading to the trail.

Road salt testing

Bill Tacineto updated the group. He and his wife Jill, who serves on wetlands have begun testing.

Minutes Management

No new developments

NCC self-promotion

Friday Night on the Green had great turn-out.

Leftovers - one phlox, 3 iris.

Mosquito dunk giveaway was very successful, generating lots of interest

Becky Eaton suggested a give away of native plant plugs at Margery Winters talk.

Vote approved \$100 for flat of plugs.

Becky Eaton wondered about collaborating with Trish Dean in hosting a book talk.

Elise Goodman, the author of a new book Plant This Not That, lives near Native Plant Trust and is available.

Action item: Becky to follow-up exploring the possibility. Asking about fee.

New Members

Bill Tacineto brought up a landscape gardener who works in the area. He works with native plants and has an ecological approach to gardening. Discussed invitation to a meeting.

Action item: Bill to pursue getting a short bio from him.

New/Old business

Discussion about keeping invasive management education in our sights.

- Possible speakers proposed - Peter Picone, Todd Mervosh, ?
- How to reach audience who don't recognize the problem; provide advice for those who are overwhelmed
- Build awareness about piece of land between ROW and yard

- Revisited ideas of organizing buddies who alternate working at each other's yard
- A day in fall or winter when clipped woody invasives are picked up by DPW,
eliminating disposal headache
- Burning bush hedges.....education directed at this?
- Highlight and promote invasive removal
 - Very visible places
 - Invasive free zone
 - Yale property along Mountain Rd.
 - Other obvious place
 - Transfer station