

Norwich Conservation Commission draft minutes of 17 April 2018

Present: David Hubbard, Mary Sellmann, Norm Miller, Craig Layne, Lynnwood Andrews

Absent: Chris Rimmer, Peter Silberfarb, Courtney Dragiff, David Hobson

Public: Brie Swensen

Commencement 7:00 pm

March minutes moved by N. Miller for approval as written, C. Layne 2nd, approved unanimously.

N. Miller will contact C. Rimmer to offer help with running the bird walks in May and to solicit the advertisement information so that he and Mary Sellmann can help with the advertising.

The Post Office display will be moved to the in line location. Mary Sellmann will work on getting a corkboard and border for the location. The first artist slated to display this Spring has offered to help make a banner for the location. Mary will contact the artist and C. Rimmer.

M. Sellmann discussed a desire to show some of the Jackson Wildlife Films in Norwich. She and N. Miller will work on a venue in town.

D. Hubbard contacted Ron Rhodes of the CT River Watershed Council about a final check on the Phragmites patch in the Opompanoosuc estuary. Hopefully there will be an update from him about the Phragmites, as well as about the Charles Brown Brook dam project, this summer.

D. Hubbard and B. Swensen provided updates about the trails, stone donations, and streamside work. There are unsanctioned mountain bikes using the Nature Area trails. The UVLT is being consulted about new "no bike" signs.

L. Andrews reported on a draft article about emerald ash borer (EAB) that is nearly ready to publish. She distributed copies for editorial feedback and will send out an electronic comment by email. She will find beetle, exit hole, and tree photos to accompany the article. She will submit it to the Norwich Times.

M. Sellmann relayed concerns of citizens about the solar array project proposed on Fire District lands.

B. Swensen asked that the NCC cover costs of trails committee members signed up to do chain saw safety and wilderness first aid training. D. Hubbard moved that the NCC cover costs for up to six members' training in both areas (6 x \$150 x 2 = \$1800), L. Andrews 2nd, approved unanimously.

C. Layne will remind C. Dragiff about organizing a Melendey Tract invasive plants outing.

N. Miller reported on affordable housing efforts in town.

L. Andrews will chair the May meeting where we will plan the future chairing.

Adjournment 8:20

Minutes Submitted by C. Layne