

Norwich Conservation Commission draft minutes of July 19, 2016

Present: Jen Goulet, David Hobson, David Hubbard, Norm Miller, Chris Rimmer, and Peter Silberfarb

Absent: Martha Graber, Phyllis Katz, Craig Layne

Public: George Clark

Commencement 7:05pm

June minutes were moved for approval; approved unanimously

There were no public comments.

Chairperson Jen Goulet led a discussion about the invasive species education project. Fact sheet development and publication was scheduled through September 2016. An article on native plant gardening slated for release in the Norwich Times is undergoing its final edits.

NWC grant applications to fund a feasibility study on the removal of the Charles Brown Brook dam are in development. Commission feedback is requested.

George Clark provided an update on the Milt Frye Nature Area. Invasive species work continues on buckthorn, and Fred Glanzberg is being considered to craft a management plan for the forested portions of the Milt Frye. A separate management plan for the meadow and orchard is being considered. In the meantime, mowing continues twice a year and planting new apple trees is under consideration. The Milt Frye committee is also weighing the benefits of planting an eroded area in the riparian zone surrounding the brook near Route 5.

Norm Miller led a discussion of a potential educational effort designed to highlight birds and their relationship with global climate change. An evening of films and shorts is a possibility, with a late winter target date. Norm Miller will present a short proposal at the August NCC meeting.

Susan Morse will be speaking about cougars in Vermont at the Montshire Museum on Friday, October 28. Courtney Dobyns of Keeping track of Norwich is organizing the event and the Commission will be helping to fund this event.

Adjournment 7:50pm

Minutes submitted by David Hobson