

Norwich Conservation Commission draft minutes of 18 August 2015

Present: Chris Rimmer, Peter Silberfarb, Craig Layne, David Hubbard, Jennifer Gillrich, Martha Graber, David Hobson

Absent: Norm Miller, Bill Pierce

Guest Presenter: Harry Roberts

Public: Lee Michaelides, Ann Silberfarb, Neil Fulton, Liz Russell and 6 others

Commencement 7:05 pm

H. Roberts reported with a slideshow on the problems (aesthetic loss, habitat loss, skin loss to chemical burns) of and possible solutions (early season mowing [but don't mow competitors too early], manual pulling, taproot slicing, herbicides, burning/discing, mowing then herbicides) to the increasing Norwich populations of the invasive plant wild parsnip.

C. Rimmer moved (P. Silberfarb 2nd) that the NCC develop a plan to initiate educational outreach about the invasive plant wild parsnip (e.g. post office displays, workshops, science writing, listserv postings, etc), to control it manually with organization of monitors and neighborhood volunteers in "proactive" areas, and to advise the mowing of it appropriately in "active" and "reactive" areas, approved unanimously.

M. Graber moved July minutes for approval (J. Gillrich 2nd), approved unanimously.

D. Hobson reported that the Sullivan property is a good candidate for conservation, especially as part of the working landscape. N. Fulton indicated the planning commission concurred that such conservation was in line with the town plan.

D. Hubbard reported on differences between iNaturalist and iMap Invasives software, e.g. points versus polygons. The consensus was that the NCC would stick with iNaturalist for mapping purposes.

P. Silberfarb moved meeting adjournment (M. Graber 2nd), approved unanimously.

Adjournment 8:25 pm

Minutes submitted by C. Layne, secretary