

Norwich Conservation Commission draft minutes of 20 March 2018

Present: Craig Layne, Chris Rimmer, Peter Silberfarb, Courtney Dragiff, David Hobson, Lynnwood Andrews

Absent: David Hubbard, Mary Sellmann, Norm Miller

Commencement 7:00 pm

February minutes moved by C. Rimmer for approval as written, P. Silberfarb 2nd, approved unanimously.

D. Hobson and C. Layne presented some potentially useful components of conservation planning maps. Commissioners will think about other data layers they would like to have available and bring them up at future meetings.

Melendy Parcel invasive plants were discussed. In the spring and summer the commission will hold public education events, covering plant identification, biology, and control, at the site. The small parcel contains at least a half dozen of the most common invasive plants in Norwich. C. Dragiff will bring a draft plan for some events to the next meeting.

A local artist will make use of the NCC display space at the Post Office to present some photography of birds. C. Dragiff will work on a new banner for the display space.

NCC bird weekend was discussed. There are already two local bird walks scheduled for that Saturday, 12 May: Mascoma Audubon at Balch Hill, Hanover, NH and Montshire Museum, at Montshire Property, Norwich, VT. Perhaps the NCC can help advertise those walks. C. Rimmer will also hold a bird banding activity that Sunday, 13 May, at Campbell Flats, Norwich, VT, 7:30?-. He will draft some advertisement language and other commissioners can then help with dissemination by reformatting the draft for flyers, newspaper ads, list-serves, emails, etc. C. Layne volunteers for making flyers and P. Silberfarb volunteers for arranging a newspaper ad. Any additional events commissioners would like to add to bird weekend are welcome; they should be planned and arranged by said commissioner with advertisement and implementation help from other commissioners.

Japanese knotweed at New Boston was discussed. We will continue the cutting and pulling experiments at the established plots with the welcome help of L. Andrews and with a higher frequency of cutting this growing season. The addition of black plastic and goat treatments was discussed.

L. Andrews reported draft articles about emerald ash borer (EAB), coyotes, and soils are in the works. EAB will likely be the topic for the summer Norwich Times article, due 1 May. Coyotes will likely be the topic in the Fall.

The commission will need a new member in 2018. Recruiting is encouraged.

The Norwich representative to the Appalachian Trail Community Summit would like to attend an NCC meeting to talk trails, AT hiker projects, and corridor conservation projects. They are most welcome. C. Dragiff will communicate with the representative.

N. Miller will be chair for the April meeting. A new round of month-to-month chairs or a month-after-month chair will be needed beginning in May.

Adjournment 8:30

Minutes Submitted by C. Layne