

Norwich Conservation Commission draft minutes of 15 September 2015

Present: Norm Miller, Bill Pierce, Craig Layne, David Hubbard, Jennifer Gillrich, David Hobson, Peter Silberfarb

Absent: Chris Rimmer, Martha Graber

Public: Nick Krembs, Lindsay Putnam

Commencement 7:05 pm

B. Pierce moved August minutes for approval (P. Silberfarb second), approved unanimously.

B. Pierce reviewed the proposed 2017 budget in the context of the 2015 actual expenditures and the 2016 budget. It adds the Milt Frye Nature Area to the budget as a line of \$900, those funds coming from reductions in other line items. B. Pierce moved (P. Silberfarb second) that the fiscal year 2017 budget be set at \$6,950 with the new nature area line item included, approved unanimously.

L. Putnam reported that phase one of the invasives control in the nature area was evaluated at 90% effective as promised. Hand-pulling will happen in spring 2016 and follow-up control by the contractor will happen in fall 2016.

L. Putnam reported on the 200 sq ft educational shelter proposed to be constructed by an Eagle Scout candidate in the nature area. It needs UVLT approval and a better-illuminated budget. She also reminded the commission that the town owns a corner of land along the interstate not part of the nature area. It has been suggested that the town make the parcel part of the nature area.

N. Krembs reported that draft horses and people have continued working on the Gile Mtn trail. The work will not finish in 2015 so more will happen in 2016. The trails committee will have an email address where citizens can report trails issues (e.g. fallen trees), [norwichtrails@gmail.com](mailto:norwichtrails@gmail.com).

D. Hubbard discussed the invasives plants of recent discussions and the relative prioritization of different species. D. Hobson asked if we should have a subcommittee to develop a message about invasive plants and an efficacious way to deliver that message. P. Silberfarb advocated we organize teams of volunteers to monitor town roads and surrounding lands. D. Hubbard asked if we should alert the select board to the problem and the ways in which they could help. C. Rimmer has offered to write some articles about invasives for the Norwich Times.

A subcommittee about invasives education has formed (including D. Hobson, D. Hubbard, J. Gillrich); road monitors have been assigned to Bragg Hill (P. Silberfarb), lower New Boston (N. Miller), Tigertown (C. Layne), Chapel Hill north (D. Hubbard), upper Beaver Meadow Rd (D. Hubbard), Blood Hill east (D. Hobson), Goodrich Four Corners (D. Hobson), Hawk Pine (J. Gillrich) and Upper Loveland (J. Gillrich); and there will be forums on identification and control of invasive species.

N. Miller moved meeting adjournment (P. Silberfarb second), approved unanimously.

Adjournment 8:25 pm

Minutes submitted by C. Layne, secretary