



Invasive & Native Plant Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, Feb 9, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM, Location: REMOTE

1. Meeting Minutes - Jan 12th and Jan 26th
2. Action Item review (see below)
3. Invasive Plant Management Plan - review draft report
4. Earth Day Event - April 23rd
5. Matters That May be Raised That Were Not Reasonably Anticipated
6. Set next meeting date-Feb 23, 2022

Action Item Review

1. Writing assignments for IPMP - 1st drafts due Feb 2nd - all completed
 - a) Annette & Juliana - Invasive Plant Management Objectives
 - b) Pat - Background
 - c) Deb - Introduction, Constraints, Assessment of Existing Conditions, IPMP Development, Evaluation - complete
 - d) Deb, Pat - Land Management Goals - complete
 - e) Emily - Management Strategies and Control Options
2. Deb - draft letter for landscapers & PPT presentation for Library program on natives- in process
3. Deb - advertise committee vacancies on FB, NMRHS science club and all science teachers at the high school - complete, plus Pat drafted and sent out a letter to local iNaturalist users. No replies to date.

All - By the end of the first year of existence, the Committee shall:

1. Provide the Select Board **by Spring, 2022** with a Strategic Plan to
 - assess and document invasive plant issues on public land,
 - develop detection and reporting process for private land owners,
 - create a list of invasive plants in town to compare with the state list (**complete**)
 - recommend appropriate remediation approaches (**complete**)
 - identify associated resource issues and sources for remediation actions,
2. Educate homeowners, businesses, and the agricultural community on the importance of using native plantings. (**In process**)
 - establish a web presence with educational material concerning invasive plants and native plantings for residents. (**complete and ongoing**)
 - Work with local landscapers / garden centers to promote native plantings (plan for winter)

Meeting Minutes:

Attendees: Emily Boeing, Annette Cate, Deb Fountain, Juliana Molina, Deb Fountain. Guest: Marc Basti

-1.12.2022 and 1.26.2022 meeting minutes approved, motion by Pat -Deb introduced Marc Basti, DCR, interested in joining

Matters Not Anticipated:

-Deb spoke with Ken K., DPW director, transfer station re: drop off for residents' invasive plants; they would create a separate area for invasives, incinerate plants. Deb is concerned about seeds popping open; Pat expressed concern about the toxins of burning black plastic bags; Pat expressed concern about the soil the Town has that already has Japanese knotweed growing; Annette suggested paper lawn/leaf bags as an alternative to plastic; Marc expressed concern about permitting and if burning at dumps is still an active solution...circle back to this.

-draft letter for landscapers - not completed

-letter to state about legislative bill, has been reported out of committee favorably and sent forward to the legislature. Will provide state guidance to towns, placed under EEA, they would have an invasive trust fund.

-set date to finalize IPMP report: at the next meeting 2.23.2022

Earth Day Event - Saturday, April 23rd:

-Approved by library

-Deb ordered seeds for giveaways

-Deb to get new garden certified as a Monarch waystation

-set up a table? Juliana commented on how well the kid activities went at Fall festival, Annette suggested walking around to see invasives onsite, Pat suggested leading walks or tagging plants for self-guided walks and also mentioned it's a little early for plants to be identified, Deb asked Annette about the small coloring books from the Fall festival. We will discuss event at next meeting.

-library talk on Native Plant Gardening is February 24th @ 6:30PM

-Marc asked about getting volunteers/advertising - this will be part of our focus in 2022

-reviewed first draft of IPMP; made edits. Deb to finalize this week and send back to all for final comments.

-Annette asked about mixed-use overlay district, plan to revitalize town, hiring outside firms/landscape architecture, will we have a say as a committee? Deb-this is being driven by Master Plan recommendations. There will be information sessions for public, and rezoning must be approved at a town meeting. The committee can provide input through MP categories that we are assigned to work on.