

## Invasive Plant Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: June 2, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

Attendees: Pat Swain Rice, Emily Boeing, Juliana Molina, Annette Cate, Evan Worth, Deb Fountain

1. Review/approve Meeting Minutes for 5/19/21
  - Unanimous approval of meeting minutes as amended
2. Pepperell Invasive Plant List Development
  - Pat currently working on it; Annette added comments; all comments should be done using tracking option on Google Docs site
3. Events Planning
  - Deb and Annette managed the native plant section of the Pepperell Garden Club annual sale and provided handouts on lawn reduction and benefits of growing native plants. Also had a sign up for 6/27 event
  - 6/27 event at Library
    1. Discussed advertising; Emily to draft and put on google drive the event description for facebook ads
    2. Water/snacks discussed
    3. Emily to contact Deb Spratt to set up time to walk/tag property line
    4. Pat to tag/ID one of each plant species to be removed
    5. How to organize day of in terms of whose working; where/with what plants. Beginning to brainstorm
      1. Committee discussed each person being responsible for different species, or to work in sections. Emily to think on it and report back to the committee.
4. Website Development
  - Evan: reached out to Martin Cadek / IT for Town of Pepperell. Discussed website possibilities. Two choices presented: one as a section under the town website umbrella and the second to have a standalone Wordpress site. Consensus was to build under the town website for easier public access and control of documents.. Martin is building an account on the town website for the Committee and Evan is waiting for that to be completed.
5. MA HD.3574/SD.1661 An Act responding to the threat of invasive species

- Draft letter to State Rep Harrington and Senator Kennedy seeking support and co-sponsorship of proposed legislation was discussed, edited and approved unanimously
  - Deb to coordinate signatures and send our final letter to chairs of several other town committees with a request that they submit a letter also
6. Wild & Scenic Community Grant Status
- Discussed job posting, additional ways to advertise
    - a. Juliana sent out postings to several job search sites and schools
    - b. Deb to post on town website and facebook plant groups
  - Discussed committee training dates, plan is for mid to late July. Tentative dates are July 21 or 22 for class on Mapping and Measuring, and July 14 or 15 for Creating a Management Plan. Deb to work on finalizing dates and contract; cost will be \$800 for the two classes.
  - Discussed reaching out to Groton Invasive Species Committee and Wild & Scenic Stewardship Grant Award Committee to invite them to the training
  - Rec'd 2k from grant funds at town hall and they sent info on how to manage
7. Matters That May be Raised That Were Not Reasonably Anticipated
- Annette presented logos for potential T shirts to wear to events to identify ourselves as mentors/managers; interested members will pay for these themselves
8. Set Next Meeting Date
- June 9th at 7pm
9. Action Items
- Annette: edit date on sign
  - Annette: complete tshirt design and obtain pricing info
  - Evan;: ongoing website development
  - Pat: ongoing Invasive Species Fact sheet development
  - Emily to draft facebook advertisement / Deb to do FB postings
  - Deb to bring letter to town hall for committee to sign
  - Deb to connect with town to post job on website and share on native plant facebook groups
  - Deb: conduct initial outreach to Groton Invasive Species Committee
  - Deb: order weed wrench, bags and marking tape