

MINUTES
NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Wednesday April 29, 2020
6:00 P.M. via Go-to-Meeting

I. Russ, Ruth, John, Debbie, Ian present via Go-to-Meeting. Called to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: none

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: deferred

IV. DISCUSSION

- a. Membership: The four current members of NCC were polled about extending membership to Ian Devine and Brad Johnson. All in favor.
- b. VT Urban & Community Forestry Program selected Russ Barrett for the VT Tree Steward: Hamilton Award. We would like to publicize this.
- c. Emerald Ash Borer Grant: Our previous \$2,000 grant enabled us to survey roads and map ash trees for removal in the right-of-way as well as assess the Town Forest ash tree population. A second grant in the amount of \$15,000 will enable contracted removal of larger ash trees, town removal of trees that are smaller, planting of replacement trees and community education for awareness of EAB. Debbie and Ruth met with Ginger and Elise from State to discuss the grant. EAB Awareness week is in September and Northfield has been selected to receive a publicity kit of signs and ribbons to mark ash trees. We will also be receiving soon, 3 signs to educate people about EAB that we will post prominently.
- d. Follow up items from EAB discussion: Rose Beatty, forester who surveyed ash trees in Town Forest noted invasive species that we should consider removing. Future topic for discussion. Russ noted this would be difficult and expensive. Also, the idea of a wood bank consisting of ash harvested should be explored. Someone will contact the Rotary Club in Northfield to see if they will support purchasing additional trees.
- e. We have signage for Town Forest and boundary markers. Will discuss how to get this done upon Russ's return.
- f. AVCC tiny grant: Hawk watch roof replacement was focus of a grant drafted by Ruth. We should hear end of May.
- g. Meeting schedule: 6:00 meeting time works if we can keep meetings to one hour.

V. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 6:45.