



NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 7th, 2019, 7:00 PM

Warren Building: Room 008

Attending: Regina LaRocque, Chair; Raina McManus, Vice Chair; Lise Olney; Katie Griffith; Brandon Schmitt, Director

Guests: Peter Warren; Jim Miller; Sandy Joseph.

Public Speak: Mr. Miller and Ms. Joseph spoke in support of the naming of the Hunnewell field after Diane Warren.

- **Appointments/Assignments:** This item was not discussed.
- **Softball field Update**

Naming of Hunnewell multi-purpose field: Peter Warren, former student at WHS, read his proposal, which outlined his mother's contributions to the Town, to rename Hunnewell field #2 "Diane P. Warren Field" in her honor. Mr. Warren explained that he had spoken with several constituent groups who were in support of the proposal. The board was in favor of renaming the field, and will review the historical precedent for naming other fields, as well as the process to rename the field for a future meeting.
- **Gas Leaks:** Ms. Olney explained that the multi-town coalition she has been working with had initially received positive feedback from the utilities, but after a drawback, the group would be exploring other options. The board then discussed efforts to connect with legislators on the issue, and the recommendation to attempt to work with the utilities before bringing in the legislators. Ms. Griffith explained that the Democratic Committee is having their meeting on March 12th at 7PM at the Community Center for a question and answer session with the Legislators. Ms. McManus explained that the LOWV is hosting a brown bag lunch on Friday March 29th. Ms. Olney will follow up specifically on the regional effort.
- **Events:** City Nature Challenge: The board discussed the City Nature Challenge program scheduled for April 26th – 29th. The event will also include an Info session and training on April 23rd in the Wakelin Room as well as a data analysis and recap on May 2nd.

Spencer Davis: The board is working with the Wellesley Conservation Council on a presentation from Spencer Davis in the Wakelin Room on April 22nd at 7pm.

Monarch Butterfly: Ms. Griffith explained that a person has been raising Monarch butterflies in her home and releasing them. Ms. Griffith proposed having her present to the Town with a power point, and then a site visit on how to find monarch eggs, and create a Monarch aquarium. The board considered combining the presentations with sales of Milkweed, but also acknowledged the busy schedule and time needed to properly plan this initiative was limited.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Charles River Cleanup is scheduled for April 27th and volunteers are welcome to sign up through the nrc. The board also discussed the toxic free lawn signs, rain barrel programs and the tree tagging efforts by the girl scouts.

Director's Report

Town Forest project: Mr. Schmitt explained that he had tagged trees with the Park and Tree Superintendent at the Town Forest, and they would begin work with invasive species removal in stand #10 and selective thinning in Stand #13 in the next week or two.

Morses pond Erosion: Mr. Schmitt explained that work would begin on the Erosion remediation in spring, and that chemicals for phosphorus inactivation would arrive mid may.

LIDAR DATA: Mr. Schmitt discussed the availability, expense and of Lidar data. The board inquired if there were additional applications, or cost saving measures such as coordinating efforts with nearby Towns or securing public source data.

Bat Colony Condos: The board discussed the bat colony boxes that were installed recently in the Chicago area.

Approve Minutes

After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2/21/2019 minutes as amended.

Other items not anticipated prior to posting/Schedule future meetings

Meetings were scheduled for March 25, April 1st, April 2nd, April 25th, May 9th, May 23rd, June 6th, June 20th.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM