

Invasive Plant Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: August 25, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM Location: REMOTE

Attendees: Juliana Molina, Annette Cate, Emily Boeing, Deb Fountain

1. Review/approve Meeting Minutes for 8/11/21 - approved unanimously as amended
2. Action Item review (see below)
3. Website Development

Evan - added more native plant documents to the website since last meeting. Discussed how the info appears on the page and how we can improve visibility/ease of finding the native plant documents.

Deb is continuing development of recommended native plant lists as a resource for residents, developers and landscapers. The list is a blend of information from the Cons Comm, MDAR, Beecology Research Project, Native Plant Trust and Maine Wild Seed Project. There will be categories such as: coniferous or evergreen trees, large canopy trees, understory trees, flowering trees, shrubs, hedges, groundcovers, ferns, and perennials. The documents now posted on the website are: a general info page on the benefits of native plants, sources to buy native plants from, and how to design your own native plant garden.
4. Wild & Scenic Community Grant Activity

Tom continues to work on his report for the Keyes-Parker Management Plan.
5. Fall Fest event planning

Annette is making a banner and books for the children; Deb is working on seed packaging and craft preparations. We have tables, chairs and the tent. For the invasives info, Emily will provide a binder with the fact sheets, some booklets on invasives. Deb has cards from Native Plant Trust and rack cards from IPAC will be printed. We will also have a bouquet of invasives. We will share our 10x20' space with the Climate Change Council. To date, staffing assignments are: Juliana-11AM-1 PM; Emily 1 PM-3 PM; Deb & Annette 11-4. Set up: Mark Fountain, Deb, Annette and Emily.
6. Groton Subcommittee on Mapping, Measuring and Management of Invasives

Meets next Wednesday. Pat and Deb will attend the meeting so there will be no IPAC meeting on Sept 1st.
7. Matters That May be Raised That Were Not Reasonably Anticipated
 - a. Received an email from Michael Viet about a small area of phragmites along a marshy area along Sucker Brook near Tony Beattie's field. Need someone to walk out there and assess the work involved in addressing it (EDRR) and come back to IPAC with a recommendation. Michael helped us at the library, and is willing to help with this project also. Committee decided to wait until Pat returns and discuss this with her.
 - b. The Friends of the Library Gardening Group, and Annette began restoration project at the library pull site. At this point, we are only able to plant half of the garden space due to Highway Dept need to backfill holes. Here is the all-native plant list; all were donated.

Plants	Qty	Height	Color	Bloom Season
Heart-leaved Aster - <i>Symphyotrichum cordifolium</i>	10	3'	blue	Fall
Gray goldenrod, <i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	4	1-3'	yellow	Fall
White wood aster, <i>Eurybia divaricata</i>	10	1-3'	white	Fall
Lupine, <i>Lupinus perennis</i>	12	1-2'	purple	Spring
Golden Alexanders - <i>Zizia aurea</i>	3	1-3'	yellow	Spring
Lance Leaf Coreopsis - <i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	7	1-3'	yellow	Spring
Celandine Wood poppy - <i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i>	3	1'	yellow	Spring
Eastern Columbine, <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	6	1-3'	red	Spring
Clustered Mountain Mint - <i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>	2	3-4'	white	Summer
Pale Purple Coneflower - <i>Echinacea pallida</i>	5	3'	purple	Summer
Foxglove Beardtongue - <i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	5	3'	white	Summer
Whorled milkweed, <i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	3	1-3'	white	Summer
Butterfly milkweed, <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	3	1-2'	orange	Summer
Rose milkweed, <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	12	2-3'	purple	Summer
Sweet Joe Pye weed, <i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>	3	4-8'	purple	Summer
Spotted Joe Pye Weed, <i>Euthrochium maculatum</i>	2	3-5'	purple	Summer
Obedient Plant, <i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	12	2-4'	white/pink	Summer
Anise hyssop, <i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	8	2-3'	purple	Summer
Great blue lobelia, <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	6	2'	blue	Summer
New York Ironweed, <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	6	7'	Purple	Summer

8. Set Next Meeting Date - Sept 8th

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

Open Actions

- Evan to create QR code (completed 8/11)
- Training invoice and T. Mirabile invoices to Town Accountant (completed 8/12)
- Committee to review proposal draft and submit edits to Deb no later than 8/15, and Deb to send them to Tom (completed)
- Website development - Evan (ongoing; info for native plants has been added)
- Develop handout on Native Plants and pollinators for children - Annette - in process
- Deb and Annette to meet on Fall Fest logistical planning (met 8/18; planning and coordination with Climate Change Council continues. Planning Board agreed to fund printing of rack cards for public handouts.)
- No new action items from this meeting

Committee Charge Actions Items toward Goals and Strategies: By the end of the first year of existence, the Committee shall:

1. Provide the Select Board 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. (In process)
 - Work with local landscapers / garden centers to promote native plantings (plan for winter)