

Mason Conservation Commission Minutes – D R A F T

Feb. 8, 2017 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

In Attendance

- Bob Dillberger
- Barbara DeVore
- Bob Larochelle
- Liz Fletcher
- Anna Faiello
- Lundy Lewis
- Ann Moser

Voted unanimously to accept Jan. minutes.

Met with Lee Gilman (commercial arborist and member of the Amherst CC) about controlling invasive plants on conservation lands. Lee mentioned a state permit is required but can be for a wide area, and getting a permit doesn't mean you must act in those areas. Might be a good idea to get a wide-ranging permit, then decide where to focus. Re. knotweed, foliar spraying is the most effective and uses the least amount of chemical per acre. Typically glyphosate is used for knotweed. Treatment is best done late in the season before first frost. In summary, we got a lot of good info from Lee. To get a concrete plan, we must first define the scope of the work we want done. Possible source of grant money: Northeast IPM Center (IPM = Integrated Pest Mgmt.).

In subsequent discussion, we agreed to apply for a permit to treat the entire RR Trail. Our initial focus will be on the section from Morse Rd. to Depot Rd. with monitoring in Spring (end of May) to determine if other areas need treatment.

Discussed possible tree planting for 250th anniversary.