

Danville Conservation Commission Notes (DCC)

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

8/10/2020

Attendance: Dave Houston, Vange Morse, Debbie Bixby, Barbara H.

1. Approved meeting notes for July 6th

2. Knotweed: Dave got out there and cut and treated the two test plots: In Plot A which was covered with plastic and chips there were a few stems he cut and also he trimmed the edges of the chips. The chemical plot (Plot C) had numerous weak stems few inches to 3-4' high very poor quality which he cut and treated with the chemical. In Plot B where the stems that weren't cut were, the stems were tall and thick but not as thick as stems that weren't cut at all throughout the years.

We discussed the possibility of stopping the efforts in the demonstration plots and what we needed to get out of it as far as educational potential. Dave offered that the best educational potential resides in people being able to see the eradication effects first hand. We talked about writing up a report with pictures and videos to illustrate the different techniques we have used so far so at least people could read about it if they can't get out to the forest.

When logging gets done, then we need to talk about the possibility of completely eliminating the knotweed section, continuing the demonstration plots, or letting it all go. Dave feels like its going almost be impossible to control, due to the root system, and encourage the town to keep covering the area. Should we create a barrier around the plot in order to keep it from spreading. Dave thinks we should go out there and discuss the scope of that proposal.

We agreed to meet Weds Morning at 8am at the gate of Rogers Lot to cut the final plot and to take pictures and discuss further. Dave will bring a copy of his notes to start writing a report.

As far as the certified applicator on the landing: Matt has put us in touch with Markus Bradley of Red Start Consulting in Bradford VT. He said that he believes the application of Rodeo Herbicide will be about \$400 to the stems on the landing and that he would probably do that in September after the bees are done doing their thing. Vange will check on our budget.

3. Vange reported that the Selectboard approved the logger and Matt has begun the Contracting process. He has not gotten back to us about when that process will be complete, but hopefully will get back to us about that soon.

4. First we will determine with Matt and the logger when we believe that we will be able to do a pre-harvest tour. Then we will discuss with Matt what that will look like and what types of

education materials and signage we might want to gather and erect for the tour and for the future.

5. Deb suggested we should use the annual town report to highlight our knotweed study and point people to our facebook page and encourage a newsletter of sorts.