**Groton Invasive Species Committee Meeting Minutes**

**5July2024**

Committee Members Present:

Charlotte Weigel

Jonathan Basch

Olin Lathrop

Ron Strohsahl

Adam Burnett

Ann Carpenter

1. Review minutes and action items from June meeting
2. Review recent work
3. Schedule next treatments - next up: Knotweed
4. Status of signs
5. Discuss candidates for any potential new treatment areas
6. All other business

The Meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM.

The first order of business was Review minutes and action items from June meeting

* The minutes were reviewed and edited contemporaneously
* Olin Lathrop moved to approve the minutes as amended
* Jonathan Basch seconded the motion
* The motion passed by unanimous vote

Action items

Standing:

* Action for Olin Lathrop and Adam Burnett to schedule treatment of knotweed at Surrenden and email committee – treatment completed
  + Charlotte Weigel: Treatment went well. Some fresh growth, some knotweed that had obviously been treated. Lots of regrowth of other plants. Tricky to find knotweed among the other plants
  + Adam Burnett: Used Glyphosate, would like to treat with Triclopyr
  + Charlotte Weigel: Took about 1.5 hours
  + Olin Lathrop: How much spray did you use?
  + Adam Burnett: Mixed up 1.8 gallons and used 1 gallon. Tried to use very little spray
  + Jonathan Basch: Knotweed much reduced from last year
  + Charlotte Weigel: Couple of good things to report. Many of the shrubs have survived. We also treated the small spot of knotweed further South

New:

* Action to schedule Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) treatment at Deerhaven - pending
* Olin to write story for the Groton Herald based on the grant - pending
  + Charlotte will send Olin the final pdf of the grant
* Action for Charlotte to send email to schedule weekend treatments.  - complete

The second order of business was Review recent work

* Covered in discussion above for the Surrenden site
* Olin Lathrop: Went to Nipmuck Meadows with Bruce to treat the black swallow wort along the border. Treated some isolated knotweed along Shattuck. Also visited Hayden rd. and treated Knotweed and Bittersweet. All treatments with Triclopyr. Diluted for treatment of Knotweed.
* Olin Lathrop: Also received the last part of the backpack sprayer
* Olin Lathrop: Also met the homeowner at Court st./Station Ave. James Brook at the back of the property. Fairly large knotweed stand, similar in size to the Country club. Recommended the homeowner cut and spray the clump. Quote from a landscaper was over $3,000- for maybe around 300 square feet in area
* Olin Lathrop: Also went 8 Lone Lane to talk to the landowner. Identified bittersweet on the property. Advised the homeowner on treatment options.
* Olin Lathrop: Visited lost lake Fire station. Ailanthus treatments look very effective

The third order of business was schedule next treatments

* EAB at Deerhaven
* Bittersweet at St Regis Papermill
* knotweed at Country Club
* Farmers and Mechanics- Adam will survey and send an email if he plans to treat
* Carmichael- The area that was treated looks good. Can go back later in the year.
* Town Forest- Stilt grass looks better than last year, but some still there- Charlotte to pull stilt grass, **Charlotte to email Ron schedule pull of stilt grass at Town Forest**
* Town Forest- there is a spot of knotweed along the Nashua river. Don’t know if Fish and Wildlife has been treating. **Action Charlotte to send email to Fish and Wildlife to see if they plan to visit the Town Forest site**
* GELD Knotweed
* **Action: Jonathan to send email to schedule treatments for the weekend of the 28th.** Tentatively Adam and Olin are available - will discuss locations - maybe St regis papermill

The fourth order of business was Status of Status of signs

* Done - Ann will pick up next week

The fifth order of business was Discuss candidates for any potential new treatment areas

* Fully occupied for the next several weeks. Would be good to survey some sites again particularly to plan for Phragmites treatments. **Action to survey Rail trail, Priest, Eliades, and Casella.**

The sixth order of business was All other business

* Ron Strohsahl: Found an article regarding drone mapping and treatment. Will share the link. The location was in Wisconsin. Link:
  + <https://www.globalagtechinitiative.com/in-field-technologies/drones-uavs/mapping-and-spot-spraying-invasive-weeds-with-drones/>
* Charlotte Weigel: Would like to pass on the responsibility of the chair. Would like to stay on the committee
  + Olin Lathrop: Motion to reorganize
  + Charlotte Weigel: Charlotte seconded
  + Passed by unanimous vote
  + Olin nominated Jonathan
  + Charlotte Weigel seconded
  + Discussion that not all members are present to make another nomination
  + Adam Burnett: Amend the motion to have the discussion at the next meeting
  + Olin Lathrop: Moved to table to motion to the next meeting
  + Charlotte Weigel: Seconded
  + Motion passed by unanimous vote.
  + Charlotte Weigel: For the next meeting can discuss how to divide the work

Adam Burnett Moved to adjourn.

Olin Lathrop Seconded.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.