

TOWN OF LEYDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING 5/17/24

Commission Attendees

Evan Abramson
Janell Howard
Karen O'Neil
Don Sadowsky

Other Participants

Cornelia Reed
Barbara Wallace (Zoom)

Preliminaries

Reviewed correspondence (none)
Minutes approved

Discussion

W. Leyden Road logging

No updates

Knotweed

Finance Committee setting up article for additional \$3000 to control knotweed; does not specify how, to be voted on at June 3 town meeting

Herbicides \$6K per year for 2 years

Mowing would be done over 6 years \$192,150

10 feet on either side of the road is where the knotweed would be controlled

Normal once a year mowing spreads knotweed rhizomes

Trial of smothering on road failed; grew back after one year

Vegetation Control Service is not available this year

Barbara Wallace spoke to Lincoln Conservation Commission

Some people cutting 6 times a year

Local farm (Campbell's) states that they have achieved Knotweed control with smothering only
More public education necessary

Evan: unlike farmland, roads are not flat, subject to erosion or flooding, smothering impractical
Also more expensive than mowing
Opt-out with commitment to control

USDA organic certification 35 ft spray buffer
Vermont organic milk 50 ft buffer

Finance Comm says create a 1-pg handout for June 3 town meeting
We will share handout
Suggest having a separate vote in the future on herbicide use, if we go that route

Karen writing article for Leyden Life on Knotweed, with input from Commission members

Solar installation

Cornelia Reed, 30 W Leyden Road

Working with PV Squared
Already have 2 arrays in a field
Want to put in a 3d array close to brook at edge of field in the 200 foot buffer of a perennial stream in a field
Ground mounted poles
Minimal ground clearing, flattest
Could do a silk barrier
Recommend seed mix
Approved by unanimous voice vote, with the condition that if more than 500 sq ft of clearance, the Commission needs to inspect