

Minutes Draft

MA/RI-TACF Spring Quarterly Meeting 4/25/15

Norcross Sanctuary, Wales, MA

10:35am Morning Orchard Manager Meeting

Present: Lois Breault-Melican, Denis Melican, Yvonne Federowicz, Brian Clark, Michael Novack, Rufin van Bossoyt, Rich Hoffman, Kathy Desjardin, Brad Smith, John Meiklejohn, Jamie Donalds

Guests: Doug Hutchison (sp?) DCR Forester for this area (Wales MA +) ;
Josh Soojian

Introductions: new guest is Doug Hutchison (sp?) from this area's DCR. Helped Bruce Spencer plant at Quabbin. **Doug would love to help work on reforestation.**
Doug invited us to table at a Sept. 27th event: State Town Forests, in Wilberham, MA

BC3 Orchards

Status of Research Orchards: Medway – still has some trees to be selected. We have an interested volunteer for it too.

Brian Clark asked for help on our list of BC3 Orchards: names, Clapper/Graves/Nanking, cross names etc. Online TACF Trees DB has partial info.
yf provided one spreadsheet with additional partial info.

Question for Kendra/Charlotte: Medway: which selections should we use? Hard to choose between; Brian says there are many nuts right now...

Inoculations/evaluations/roguing this year:

Mirick?

Foster, RI? – Yvonne will do

Glocester, RI?

Medway evaluations (Kendra or Charlotte?)

Hawley selection/roguing (Brian to do)

Jamie's

NEFF Littleton?

River Bend

Stockbridge

Quabbin may not be doing well, had too much competition (Rufin)

Wrentham seeds (Jamie) are unfortunately Mutts because an F1 bloomed

We could ask Charlotte to evaluate for roguing

USDA will take some trees from River Bend – 4 trees – Wednesday for Asian Longhorn Beetle testing (Lois)

Demo Trees & Forest Plantings

Smolak: received 30 Meadowview seeds (Lois)

Has farm where people pick etc.

Greenhill Park – 15 trees being planted. Eventually need signage. (Lois) Jamie has sign that needs home. Ceremony this week. Article in Worcester Telegram.

They would like more Mutt trees. Yvonne will provide.

Blithewold Arboretum– Bristol, RI. Gave Mutts, promised B3F3 yf

Dighton, MA – Jim Digits. Mutts at Bristol Aggie. yf

Moses Brown School – to be determined. yf

Revive the Roots, Smithfield, RI yf

Nimrod Fish & Game

Leominster Sportsmans' Club – Jim DiMaio (Mutt Nuts)

deCordova Sculpture Park & Museum, Lincoln – Lois & Denis – several trees

We need a sheet with list of expectations for Demo Trees! These trees will likely not look attractive as most are not highly resistant.

Does National have a sheet? Lois, Jamie

Anyone planting these is now part of our research project

Rich Giordano is not at OSV anymore; they have 5 B3F3s.

B3F3s: Rufin has some, Jamie has some, Lois has seeds to plant

Forest Plantings:

Jamie will do everything

Jim Digits, Dighton MA

Nimrod Fish & Game

Jim DiMaio Hamilton Rod & Gun

Doug guest today might help

Leominster

Seed orchards:

Brian passed out chart -- (nicely colorcoded!)

John Emery cut back to one block

Orange may be Clapper now

Orange: Lauren to look at legal agreement. Brian to ask about maintenance

Brian needs assistance from people in keeping track of orchards, harvests, contact info

SKLT folks did a burning through cloth approach. Brian likes idea.

Norcross – seed orchard possibility! To be discussed in June.

Granville – Kendra mentioned 2 lines from Medway possibly

Graves – John M. concerned whether these are as resistant? Can ours produce enough?

Please submit grant-reimbursible receipts to Michael in TRIPLICATE or use pdfs etc.

We received 11,000 grant through the Manton Foundation!

Norcross: Sanctuary and Foundation are separate; small staff but regular. Large gorgeous property. Core sanctuary plus outside lands. No forest cutting for profit within core.

Broke for lunch.

Leslie Duthie – Horticulturist at Norcross – provided us a wonderful tour of the Norcross Sanctuary at lunch time. The history of the beautiful site is quite interesting, and the building holding our meeting is very nice and well equipped.

Afternoon Board Meeting
MA/RI Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation

Present: Lois Breault-Melican, Denis Melican, Yvonne Federowicz, Brian Clark, Michael Novack, Rufin van Bossuyt, Rich Hoffman, Kathy Desjardin, Brad Smith, John Meiklejohn, Jamie Donalds
(morning minus Josh and Doug)

~1:30pm

Treasurer's Report Michael Novack

Book sales/donations need to be reported to Michael

Michael feels that the increased Grant income will be extremely helpful; should allow us to function well this year w/orchards plus essentially slowly get back some reserve due to other income

Motion to accept Treasurer's report

passed unanimously

Secretary's Report Kathy Desjardin

Membership 286

"Tree Specialists of Holliston, MA" near Medway are willing to help! Kathy has contact info

Kathy will make a list of these resource people so we can ask them for help on specific projects

Motion to accept Secretary's Report

passed unanimously

Motion to accept MA/RI-TACF Quarterly Meeting minutes from 1/25/15

passed unanimously

Orchard Development Report Brian Clark

Brian: planting supplies needed include many more tubes

Westboro will need large number

Approximate Planting Supply Order

3,000 Tubes 1350

Cloth – Brian has

Fertilizer

Hardware cloth

3000 Staples \$300

Stuewe Pots (Yvonne) \$300

Irrigation system (Westboro) 750

3,000 Bamboo 515

Motion: approve up to \$4000 for first orchard supply order of 2015

Passed unanimously

Westboro may prepare and plant before fencing

Mass Fish & Wildlife may be able to host us for a Board Meeting
Norcross as well

Communications Report

TACF Spring (National) Meeting Report (yf)

Nanking lines -- we could create additional -- John Emery, Mark M. may be interested in planting.

Mark would like to pollinate. We have several candidates. North Reading, North Andover. Jamie may help.

Jamie will check with John Emery re. whether he can take more Nankings. Yvonne mentioned that we can pot these at Bristol Aggie if timing doesn't work out.

Orange Seed Orchard Legal Issues: Brian will contact Mr. Busby to find out status and then Brad will ask Lauren to examine.

Board Composition, Nominations

Lois passed out guidelines for nonprofit board member selection
Possible new board members were discussed

Jamie will be Nominating Committee Chair; John Meiklejohn, Rufin, Yvonne will also serve

2015 Public Outreach

Garlic & Arts

Ashfield Fall Festival Columbus Day Weekend

Bristol Aggie next weekend

Greenhill Park

Lois discussed post card announcement asking for emails, who would like to volunteer etc. – she will design,

Motion: authorize up to \$100 for President to send mailing postcard asking for emails to MA/RI membership

Passed unanimously

Craigslist & Meetup can also be used to get people involved

Tshirts – white on green, 3 sizes

Chapter Website:

Yvonne requested fresh content from people and nudges

Elaboration from yf post-meeting:

- photos for home page
- event listings: what should go on the calendar?
- ideas to redo old pages
- topics for new pages
- basic text content or formatted if you want

Earthfirst River Rendezvous will be in Vermont this year; Mike Novack was asked to participate for MA/RI-TACF

Lois & Denis – need to be on Sara F.'s listserve!

Massachusetts Horticulture Society Award!

Lois read the letter from Massachusetts Horticulture Society announcing that TACF will receive an award in mid October 2015. (date?)

Lisa Thompson, President of TACF, is planning to attend the ceremony.

We were thrilled to hear that Norcross Wildlife may be interested in a seed orchard. May is very busy but afterwards we will be in discussion with them.

We would need to communicate re. the issues involved.

Norcross meeting in June tentatively. Rich, Lois, Jamie.

Leslie Duthie – Horticulturist at Norcross – provided us a wonderful tour at lunch time.

Adjourned 4:00pm