

Minutes from The Pollinator Health Advisory Committee (PHAC) meeting, January 14, 2020

Members Present: Brian Cramer, Sarah Grimwood (Chair), Mark Hanson, Christian Krueger (Clerk), Stanley Lucks, Sig Roos.

Others in attendance: Steve Verrill

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

1. The meeting minutes from November 19, 2019, were reviewed and approved.
2. The Committee discussed Senate bill No.655 and determined that the bill was not actionable due to dates within the legislation having already passed.
3. The Committee was updated on the letter sent to local nurseries regarding neonicotinoids. Four of 27 had responded at the time of the meeting. Next steps were discussed including various methods by which we might publicize the list of approved nurseries.
4. The Committee discussed comments on the proposed 2020 Town meeting article provided from meeting with the Board of Health, the Natural Resources Commission, and the Agricultural Committee.
5. The Committee listened to public comment from Steve Verrill about various methods of pesticide application, and what their effects may be on the local environment, with additional commentary by Brian Cramer about the importance of considering the relative benefits of neonicotinoids vs. other pesticides. Both were in favor of labeling neonicotinoids as Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP), which would require a licensed applicator.
6. The Committee discussed reaching out to neighboring towns to determine if their policies pertaining to Pollinator Health might be good candidates for adopting within Concord, and will return to the next meeting with ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm