

IPM Meeting Minutes June 10, 2021

In Attendance: Margaret Doris, Justin Traxler, Bruce Wenning, Derek Mannion and Robert McClary

- Minutes –

One change to minutes from 6/3/2021. Motion to approve was not made since there was not a quorum. JT discussed too much detail in minutes. MD thought the detail level was fine.

- Review next steps for IPM –

- Recap IPM zoom information outline

- BW discussed biodiversity. There is a decrease in biodiversity when there is an increase in soil compaction. Soil compaction does more to decrease biodiversity than an herbicide application. A biodiversity study is very expensive, can take 5+ years. BW has work experience with Dr. Pat Vittum, a UMASS Amherst entomologist.
- General review of questions from zoom meeting. Answer to question #3 (Are there PFAS substances in the herbicide?) will be posted to webpage and #6 (Can New cold spring be removed from year one program for future review?)
- Discuss the need to continue annual zoom meeting. MD opposed to stopping zoom unless it is cost prohibitive. MD - the meeting is a benefit, there are a number of people represented through the meeting. Are the people attending the meeting addressing the intent of the meeting? MD thought not all people made it to the meeting due to Covid-19 – the word did not get out. It was agreed there would be further discussion on this item.
- DM thought more people would attend meeting since all City Councilors received the ipm expansion memo, weeks field was listed again as an application site this year and due to out strong ipm webpage presence.

- Next steps on Proposals to Use Pesticides on Public Property

- Maintenance is waiting to hear back from Planning Department on impact of wetlands on the application area.
- No formal vote occurred due to low number of IPM Committee members attending. A formal vote had occurred earlier in the spring for approval of these herbicide applications.
- City IPM webpage link: <https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/maintenance/integrated-pest-management>

Next Meeting June 24, 2021

Respectfully submitted by, **Derek Mannion**