



DRAFT Minutes

Property Review Session - Dec 14, 2025, 11 am

RS Fife Conservation Area and Kimball Pond Conservation Area

Present: Kelly Short, Lance Messinger, Audra Klumb, Steve Seron, Bob Steenson, Teresa Wyman.

Absent: Ken Stern, Charlie Comey

Work party called to order at 11:05 am

RS Fife Conservation Area – invasives control

The commission met on-site to discuss property management including but not limited to controlling invasive species in the RS Fife CA and Kinter's Garden, and rerouting portions of the walking trail that begins at the Kimball Pond parking area.

Members noted the following issues and potential solutions:

Increase mowable area by removing 3 small, old apple trees in the northeast quadrant of the field.

Clean up the rest of the apple trees in the north part of the field; remove bittersweet, cut lower limbs (to ease mowing), and cut suckers to increase fruit production.

Establish a May 1 cutting party along the stone wall every year.

Leave Elder tickets in the wetland, as they won't grow much larger.

Evaluate clumps of maple. Leave best small trees. Evaluate large trees and decide whether any should be kept.

Revisit notes from Matt Tar's visit and advice about the field years ago.

Clean out bluebird boxes.

Cut down tree and bittersweet by north stonewall.

Consult neighbors about north line trees, and bittersweet.

RSFCA – Kimball Pond trail rerouting

Audra and Lance had scouted a new route to reconnect the trail behind Kimball Pond to the RSFCA field. The old entrance to the field has been cut off by a large dead pine and inability to clear around it.

Audra identified an easy place to cross the stonewall. She also flagged in 2 places how to reroute the trail so it stays out of wet areas and a vernal pool. Work on the trail will wait until the snow is gone.

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36 Kinter's Garden

37 The garden is very overgrown and edged with mature Burning Bush (which was promoted
38 decades ago as an ornamental shrub, but is very invasive). A major effort will be needed to
39 remove the volume of invasives to see the structure of the garden and what else is growing
40 there.

41 Bob suggested possibly using a work party from the dept. of corrections. Kelly suggested asking
42 Forest Savers to bid on mechanical removals in both the garden and RSFCA. Forest Savers is a
43 service that specializes in uprooting and removing invasives.

44 Work party adjourned at 12:20 pm.

45 Minutes submitted by Kelly Short

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