Hopkinton Open Space Committee Wednesday, January 17, 2024 Hopkinton Town Hall 7:30 p.m. Minutes – Accepted 2/21/24

Administration

Present: Dijit Taylor, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Lucia Kittredge, Bob LaPree, Alternates: Erin Vanden

Borre, Bill Dunlap Absent: Sabrina Dunlap, Alternate: Lori Sommer

Annual Report: Lucia and Bob were thanked for their good work on the report.

Approval of minutes: Public and Non-public minutes for 9/20/23 and 11/15/23 were approved.

Old Business: Dave and Kathy Dustin conservation easement update:

Grant funding administration: Five Rivers will administer the grant and funding. Suggested that Five Rivers should send the HCC an invoice for the balance of the HCC funding commitment. The HCC can decide whether to pay as a lump sum or as expenses are incurred.

Updated appraisal: The initial appraisal will be too old to meet LCHIP's requirements at closing, and the appraiser has retired. A new appraisal will need to be done.

Conservation easement concerns – trails, parking: The Dustins are in favor of trails and a trailhead (as long as the trailhead is not too close to their home). Parking must be written into the CE. Decided to ask for an eight-car parking area, with some kind of option to expand it. We need to decide what trails we want included in the CE. Dijit and Rob will meet with the Dustins to discuss trails and parking.

Field trip to the property: Five Rivers proposes to offer a field trip to the property for HCC. Dijit offers to go out with any OSC member who is unfamiliar with the property. OSC and HCC usually offer a public field trip on new properties once the transaction is complete.

Updates:

Trails Committee: Rob has run a GPS track from the bandstand to the Stevens Rail Trail. Lucia will ask the CNHRP to create a trail map for the village.

Wetlands committee: None Class VI roads committee: None

Economic development project for Contoocook village: UNH has issued a report and executive summary with recommendations. Dijit to circulate to OSC members.

Website and maps: The trail across the Lundquist property has been taken off the map on the website, due to problems with picnicking and people leaving the trail.

Five Rivers' new Conservation Plan: It will be presented at the next HCC meeting, 2/20 at 7:00.

Lucia made a motion, seconded by Bill, to adjourn to non-public meeting per RSA 91 A:3 ii (d) Acquisition of real estate. Vote was unanimous in favor. Committee adjourned to non-public session at 8:34 p.m. Committee returned from non-public session at 9:12 p.m. Lucia made a motion, seconded by Bill, to seal the minutes until the projects discussed become public or are removed from consideration. Vote was unanimous in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 7:30 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Rob Knight, Secretary