

APPROVED

Hopkinton Conservation Commission

Minutes of 04/20/2010

Meeting held at 7:30 PM @ Harold Martin School

Hopkinton, NH

Present were: Lee Wilder, Derek Owen, Ron Klemarczyk, Jed Mellow, Erick Leadbeater, Todd Aubertin, Tim White and Byron Carr. The Hopkinton Open Space Committee was also present: Dijit Taylor, Don Lane, Susan Zankel, Robert Knight (from 5 Rivers), and Bob Lapree. George Langwasser from the Hopkinton Select Board. Guests: Bud Clapsaddle, Gail and Peter Beckett.

Meeting called to order at 1935 EDT by Chairman Owen.

1. Introductions
2. Bud owns house at Rollins Property. Clean up of cellar holes on property per conservation easement was discussed. Possible to burn debris in cellar hole? Remove debris from cellar hole and grade walls of hole to a gentle slope. Derek will contact Neil and coordinate with Herme re site visit with Bud, soon, to scope out access and methods.
3. The Becketts are interested in the trailhead @ Ransmeier Forest. Kiosk? See 4.c. below.
4. HCC met with the Open Space Committee. We discussed several items:
  - a. Brochure from the Washington (NH) CC circulated as sample.
  - b. Dijit showed her archive copies of Bohanan Project "papers."
  - c. Signs for protected properties in Hopkinton were discussed with the Sign Committee (from the last meeting). Susan reports committee unable to meet. The use and up-keep of trails was discussed. She did some homework on sign prices. Plastic most durable. Boundary vs. trails head signs. Town owned land markers vs. conservation easement land. Less is more. Taxpayer purchased lands need to be identified. The HCC HAS spent lots of "its monies" on land projects...just the public doesn't always remember that. Have detailed property maps available online.
  - d. GPS coordinates for trails. Dijit reports that HHS students working on project (with photos) for Ransmeier Forest. Any

project re HCC properties must be presented to the HCC for review, before they are presented in a public forum.

- e. Conservation Easement status report. Existing Conservation Easements must be (re) approved at March 2011 Town Meeting. George and Dijit are working on that.
  - f. Stewardship fees for 5RCT easements are available from the respective bonds.
  - g. Concord has two trail guides: Booklet and "newspaper insert." Concord may be willing to put our trails in their guide. Maybe a link to our webpage / maps would be easier.
  - h. Hopkinton Agriculture Commission "idea" is still in progress.
  - i. A HOSC rep will attend the May 18, 2010 HCC meeting to report on signage ideas.
5. Minutes of March 16, 2010 HCC were accepted as printed, with minor spelling errors.
  6. Information on various projects from MCCC was discussed.
  7. Derek and Ron looked at brook at 668 (?) Main Street. Abutter concerned about brook/erosion at recent high flow. Nature at work...
  8. HCC Budget discussed. Bohanan funds have not been transferred yet. Change in use tax for 2009 was about average dollar amount. Rate is 35%.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Town owns some land in Warner at Steven's Rail Trail and Bermuda-Harris parcels. At Warner's request, Ron updated the Current Use applications for those two parcels.
2. Log yard on Rollins Lot for Hopkinton FLC cut on abutter's lot. It was voted to "empower" Ron to decide if this is OK.
3. Logging on Burnham Intervale, next to Town lot. Do we want to have Chase Lot logged at the same time? Ron will check.

Thanks to Lee (and Betsy) for first spring 2010 rhubarb crisp. Next HCC meeting Tues. May 18, 2010 at 7:30 PM at HMS. Open Space Committee will also attend. Tim is host. Meeting adjourned at 2112 EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Wilder

HCC Secretary