

APPROVED 05/24/11

Hopkinton Conservation Commission

Minutes of 04/19/11

Meeting held at 7:30 PM @ Harold Martin School

Hopkinton, NH

Present were: Lee Wilder, Erick Leadbeater, Ron Klemarczyk, Derek Owen, Jed Merrow, Tim White and Rob Knight. Chair Owen called meeting to order at 1933 EST.

Guests: Laura Deming NH Audubon and Robert Saunders

1. Minutes of 03/15/11 were approved as written.
2. Laura Deming of Audubon explained their phenological monitoring pilot project proposed for the Brockway Nature Preserve, Hopkinton. (See 2-page draft dated 04/14/11. Phenology is the study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events and how these are influenced by seasonal and interannual variations in climate.) The other NH site they are piloting is in Deering. Discussion of project followed. The MOU discussed at the March 15, 2011 HCC Meeting would cover this project also. This study would collect baseline data for future decisions. Interest from the Osborne bequest and other funds would cover education and management of this project. HCC approves project as discussed this evening. Who holds the Osborne Trust? Rob will check this out. Ron will work on draft MOU with Phil Brown. Bridge and boundary blazes need work. Tower is of concern. Remember there are three parcels there, acquired at different times, including the original Osborne lot. Ron will work with Phil and Laura on details. Laura will keep the HCC posted on project.
3. Robert Saunders is here with revised permit by notification re proposed driveway location off NH Rte. 103, Map 240 Lot 12. He is creating two lots surrounding the former Barbara Woodbury's house (his now). Discussion re culvert sizing followed. Mr. Saunders wanted to reassure the HCC that even though he had to re-file his application, culvert-sizing concerns were still being addressed. 2-24" culverts under proposed driveway are currently planned. Once drive is constructed, several 12-18" across driveway culverts. HCC has no objection to project as explained.

4. Forest and Land logging notification for Contoocook State Forest by Division of Forests and Lands. (Located at the jct. Of NH rte 202/9 and 127.) No problems.
5. Rob attended the Special Places Workshop on April 9, 2011. Discussion followed. Handicap access to conservation parcels and trail construction is a concern.
6. HCC budget summary for March 31, 2011 was discussed. Interest still low. Jed will check if there are other options. Rest of budget entries look OK.
7. Erick brought up silt fencing serving as reptile barriers. Discussion followed.
8. Ron discussed open space acquisition. Chain saw work on trails should have two people present. Members should call an "assistant" if they are going out. Possible trail around Hopkinton Village connecting existing conservation parcels was discussed.
9. Lee announced that Fiona Delisle is attending "On the Wild Side" at the Barry Conservation Camp for summer 2011. Payment was approved. Jed has the paperwork.
10. Signage for Hopkinton Conservation parcels was discussed. Rob had possible boundary marker examples. Rob and Ron will continue to pursue this project.
11. Jed reminded us re invasive species. Library event at Hopkinton Library was discussed. Jed will check. Lee offered to help.

Meeting adjourned at 2107 EDT. Thanks to Ruth (and Derek...) for Wild Grape Juice and gingersnaps. Next meeting is May 17, 2011, 1930 EDT at HMS. Jed Merrow is host.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Wilder
HCC Secretary