

Hopkinton Conservation Commission
August 20, 2013 Meeting
At Town Hall 1900 EDT

APPROVED MINUTES

HCC Members present were: Derek Owen, Cleve Kapala, Eric Leadbeater, Ron Klemarczyk and Lee Wilder.

Alternates present: Bob LaPree

Guest present: none

Meeting was called to order at 1904 EDT by chairperson, Derek Owen.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Minutes of 06/18/13 (Derek) were approved as written.
2. Treasurer's report. (Jed was not present. No action taken.)
3. Review of the Culvert Data and Report. Ron currently has draft and will pass along to Cleve and Erick.
4. Results of speaking with Ron Thayer, road agent, re possible "problem culverts". Ron is doing that.
5. Update on the Hopkinton Village Greenway. Ron said the Greenway Opening is scheduled for September 21, 2013. The Open Space Committee is taking care of announcements. \$3,330.18 was approved for signage, trail planking and bridge construction and materials. Those funds to come from the Town Forest account. Lee and Lucia have designed the HVG Trail sign, it is being laid out now and will be sent to Voss Signs for printing ASAP.
6. Hopkinton Conservation Boundary Markers on Town Conservation Lots. (Rob was not present.)
7. Update Town's HCC website. Doug was not present. Cleve agreed to be in touch with Doug and Kathy Barnes and request from her an RFP to address the issues that have been needed on the website. We discussed that it was urgent and the website deserves attention prior to the scheduled Greenway opening on 9/21. Doug is expected to be Kathy's contact with respect to the website and represent the CC's views with respect to the website upgrades and design. There was a consensus to secure an RFP from Kathy and she should expect to be contacted by Doug with respect to "next steps".
8. Protecting a portion (~30 acres) of the former Holmes farm on South Road (Lot 22.1). As per item #13 of our June 2013 meeting/minutes, the HCC approved paying half (1/2) of the \$2,200 appraisal. Derek signed the contract with Crafts Appraisal. Lee made a copy and gave it to Andrew Hoffman (member of the neighborhood committee who is paying the other half). Andrew forwarded the Contract copy to the Society for the Protection of NH Forests who is contracting with Crafts Appraisal.
9. A discussion was held relative to the need to be proactive with respect to our priorities for land protection in Hopkinton and to be cautious about conveying support to items that are brought to our attention with an objective to securing funding without their identification as priority protection projects. We discussed the responsibility to require that if Town funds are used on projects they must have some level of public use and public access attributes attached.
10. Bohanan kayak and canoe access ramp. Bob Lapree reported progress to date and the HCC voted to pay for signage and material amounting to \$370.03, to come from the Conservation Funds.
11. Erick reports that funds for the spraying of invasive species have been approved by Governor and Council and are now available from Merrimack County Conservation District (MCCD) in accordance with the plan and bid from Vegetation Control Service, Inc. After discussion it was agreed that MCCD will move the plan forward for the Ransmeier Woods, Rollins Lot, Hawthorne Forest and, if possible, Houston Fields.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **As of the June 2013 HCC meeting, we would like to try having our meetings begin at 7 PM.**
- 2.

Meeting adjourned at 2006EDT.

The next HCC Meeting is scheduled for 09/17/13 at 1900 EDT at Town Hall. Erick is host.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Wilder
HCC Secretary