

Hopkinton Conservation Commission
October 21, 2014 Meeting
Held at Town Hall - 7:00PM

Minutes – Approved by HCC meeting 10/18/14

Present: Lee Wilder, Ron Klemarczyk, Doug Giles, Cleve Kapala, Rob Knight, Erick Leadbeater, Jed Merrow, and alternate Bob LaPree.

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Chairperson Lee Wilder.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Minutes from September 16 meeting were approved as revised. Minutes of September 22 special meeting were approved as written.
2. Treasurer's report showed \$10,000 transferred to Five Rivers and \$108.35 paid for a purpose that was not clear. The Treasurer's report was tabled.
3. Jed Merrow reported the HCC budget request had been submitted and will be reviewed by the Selectboard at their October 27 meeting. Bob Lapree will research the percentage of change of use tax that goes into the Conservation Fund (35%) compared to other towns.
4. Brockway Nature Preserve:
 - A. Lee Wilder will contact the neighbor, Richard Eichhorn, regarding the allegedly misposted "Conservation Land" sign was posted on his property.
 - B. Lee Wilder reported that in addition to Brockway, there are several beaver dams in town causing flooding problems, and all the beaver dam problems will be remediated by the Town at the same time.
5. Trails Committee Report:
 - A. A committee meeting was held 10/16/14 and draft minutes from the meeting were presented.
 - B. Lee Wilder was authorized to sign a letter to abutters on First Parsonage Road informing them of plans for a hiking trail.
 - C. Committee is setting up a meeting with horse owners to discuss trail usage. It was suggested that any regulations be consistent with State standards.
 - D. An Eagle Scout candidate, Eric Hauschild, is looking for a project as an alternative to his planned trails project at Smith Pond Bog, which is no longer feasible because of the beaver activity there. Might be able to build bridges on Old Parsonage Road or do work at Beyer Lot. Lee will forward Eric's contact info to Trails Committee.
 - E. Committee is planning a public hike at 1:00 November 15th from Putney Hill Road on the new connector sections of Greenway trail.
6. Kimball Lake Cabins: Lee Wilder reported that volunteer work to replace the porch of the first cabin will be this Friday through Sunday, with the goal of having the cabin useable in time for skating season. Lee requested HCC volunteers at 10:00 Saturday to help clean up several dead pines and/or cut brush.
7. Conservation Land Boundary markers: Rob Knight posted HCC markers and the Audubon regulations at the Lower Straw Road entrance to Brockway.
8. Report from Open Space Committee: Ron Klemarczyk reported that the conservation easement on Dustin property has been drafted and the survey is being finalized. Lee has

been approached by two different landowners, interested in protecting their land. The inquiries will be referred to the Open Space committee.

9. Warner Scenic River initiative: Doug reported no news.
10. Beyer Conservation Easement: Rob reported no news from Audubon.
11. Timber Sale: Ron Klemarczyk reported the Forestry Fund will net \$5,368.69 from the timber harvest on the Beyer Lots: The new parking lot is very attractive, and there is a nice overlook over the bog.
12. Culvert installations on New Road, Hawthorne Forest and the erosion control at the Rollins Lot: Ron may combine this work with the work needed on First Parsonage Road. On 1/19/13 the HCC authorized \$1,500 for the culverts.
13. Invasives Control: Lee Wilder questioned why we continue to spray the knotweed at Hawthorne forest since it is not fully eradicated. Ron said we have made progress and it is nearly gone. Authorized \$90 for spraying this year.
14. Electro-fishing by NHF&G: Jed Merrow will get a copy of the report and file it at the town office. Jed talked to John Thayer about plans to replace culverts at Dolf Brook. Next year the highway department will be designing replacement culverts.
15. Bohanan Outlot: Rob reported that the Town's title is not clear. Rob is continuing to research ownership of the lot.
16. Aaron Wechsler of Aspen Environmental Consultants filed an 'after the fact' wetland permit application revision 9/30/14
17. Rachel Johnson lot encroachment: Lee and Neal Cass will contact the abutter who piled brush on town property.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Conservation Easement Steward needed: Lee Wilder said that the HCC is supposed to annually monitor two SPNHF properties in Hopkinton (Rose and Janeway) and the HCC needs a better way to do that.
2. Shoreline Impact Notice received: For 174 Clement Hill Road for 120 SF.
3. Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Lee will circulate the proposed changes to HCC members. There will be a public hearing November 18.
4. Runoff Problem on Old Stagecoach Road: Rob reported that the road is improperly drained and silty runoff is running into a wetland and onto the trails. Rob will advise Neal Cass of the situation.
5. The NHACC will have their annual workshop November 1.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Minutes submitted by Rob Knight, Secretary

Next HCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 18 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Cleve is the host.