

Hopkinton Conservation Commission  
March 18, 2014 Meeting  
Held at Town Hall - 7:00PM

### Minutes

Present: Ron Klemarczyk, Doug Giles, Cleve Kapala, Lee Wilder, Jed Merrow  
Visitors: Hilary Chapman, NH Audubon.

Jed Merrow served as secretary in Rob Knight's absence.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Chairperson Lee Wilder.

#### 1. Hilary Chapman of New Hampshire Audubon (NHA)

##### A. MOU regarding Brockway Preserve

Hilary handed out latest draft.

- Changes made per Ron's comments - removed extra bridge reference; Preserve Maintenance: marking and posting is a town function; name changes; added process for budgeting for improvements.
- NHA only spends interest on maintenance, not principal of the endowment. CC interested in keeping the endowment intact for long term maintenance.
- Ron: interested in making trails wheelchair accessible. Would not be too difficult.
- Mary Harb coordinates HHS Interact Club and may be able to provide assistance on projects.
- Target fall time frame for maintenance.
- Are there liability issues? Ron and Hilary think it doesn't affect liability either way.
- Suggestion to eliminate 10 year limit to MOU.
- Regarding mutual agreement or unilateral agreement to terminate, suggestion and a decision to add an arbitration clause instead
- Make numbering logical; number pages; date

##### B. Certificate of Liability

- Hilary handed out certificate with wording change: "This certificate is issued for insured operations of New Hampshire Audubon programming at the John Brockway Nature Preserve in Hopkinton, NH."

##### C. Signage

- Draft handed out.
- Suggestion to add "Carry in, carry out"
- #2: Delete bikes, add motorized vehicles from list
- Add town logo
- Another draft to be sent around
- Signs to be put at main access points, including along Lower Straw Road.

D. Need to notify CC before group activities at Preserve? No

2. Minutes of 1/21/14 unanimously approved; Lee will send in the approved version to town.
3. Treasurer's report: miscellaneous expenses, change of use income, unanimously approved.
4. Culvert inventory: given to Karen Robertson for Planning Board; went to DPW; send one to town office; keep one for CC; one to Fish and Game (CD).

Regarding Planning Board coordination: ask Karen to give us a heads up on upcoming subdivisions/developments.

5. Trail subcommittee: no news

6. Kimball cabins:

- Kiosk: Rob K and Ed Fairfield working with a scout regarding where to put it; open to suggestions. CC suggests near the parking lot and start of trail.
- All cabins to stay.
- Kimball cabins committee discussed 70' x 70' lot at Kimball Lake. Ron and Lee will discuss with landowner.

7. Boundary markers: tabled

8. Greenway at Hopkinton Road:

- Cleve talked to NHDOT's Bill Lambert who said signage would be provided at no expense. We are to provide a map with locations identified, which Bill Lambert will review and approve. To be based on traffic, speed limits and sight distances. Crosswalks need to be approved by the state. Maintenance and installation by the town.
- Discussion of alternative road crossing locations to reduce the amount of travel along the road. Possible crossing to New Hopkinton Cemetery; private lots close to lake. Open Space Committee to investigate.
- Invasive species issue goes to NHDOT's Richard Radwanski, District Supervisor, in spring after the vegetation emerges. Cleve to follow up.

9. Report from Open Space Committee: See New Business.

10. NH Land Trust Coalition List Serve: Jed had passed this along in case anyone was interested.

11. HCC Easement Monitoring: no news.

12. Hopkinton Student Conservation Camp: Erick has spoken with HS principal who is on board. Erick called camp and asked them to hold a spot for us.

13. Warner Scenic River initiative: Doug sent a package in and has not heard back from Nancy Martin.

14. Possible locations for the Hopkinton Community Garden: tabled

15. Beyer Conservation Easement: tabled

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussed Shoreland Impact Permit 2013-03271 regarding fire station building along river. The permit had been approved with standard conditions. Existing bank is artificial. Plan to expand a bay toward river. Floor drains now go to river and will be captured in future. No comments.

2. Commission enters Executive Session. Discussed a parcel abutting Bohanon. Commission out of Executive Session.

3. Town Forest lots: 3 could be logged.

A. Townes lot: Hatfield Road on Weare town line. 70K board feet of pine estimated previously. Nice views. Create a trail? Not highest trail priority now. Recommend proceeding - motion to authorize Foreco to proceed. Motion seconded, Ron abstained, all other members approved motion.

B. Beyers lot: were going to do a timber sale to prepare for trailhead. Good timber. Work out agreements on Smith Pond Bog access first, then discuss.

C. Aqueduct lot: high proportion of low grade pine which has low value currently. Possible view.

4. Website traffic: Doug Giles gets periodic reports of number of website visits - views, unique, first time, returning.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Next meeting Tuesday April 15 7 PM.

Thanks to Doug for the delicious bread. No thanks for raising the bar so high. ;-)

Next host is ?