Hopkinton Conservation Commission October 19, 2021 Meeting Held at the Hopkinton Town Hall

## 10/19/21 Minutes - DRAFT

Present: James Newsom, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Jonathan Bradstreet, Bonnie Christie Guests: Aniko Trombitas Kolnoki, and her daughter, Dr. Emese Kolnaki-Kis

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by James Newsom.

1. Tyler Landing lot line adjustment: Aniko Trombitas Kolnoki is the new owner of Lot 10-6 which abuts the Tyler Landing town forest. She read a long statement explaining that the only place she can site her proposed home is right on the boundary of the Tyler Landing property. She is concerned that public use of the town's Tyler Landing property, and particularly of the proposed trail, would negatively impact her privacy. Especially since she plans a wall of windows facing Tyler Landing. She asked to buy a portion of Tyler Landing to give her more privacy. Or have the HCC move the proposed trail away from the property line.

Due to the DES deed restrictions in the Tyler Landing deed, it may not be possible to sell a part of Tyler Landing (which was acquired in part with a DES Drinking Water Trust Fund grant). Rob Knight will check the deed. Ron Klemarczyk offered to meet with Mrs. Trombitas Kolnoki on site to look at potential trail routing. It was suggested that Mrs. Trombitas Kolnoki retain as much vegetation as possible on her lot to provide her own buffer.

2. Bonnie Christy requested permission to read the following statement, which was read with the agreement of the Chair:

We are on the land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange among indigenous peoples for thousands of years and is the home of the Western Abenaki People. We honor, recognize and respect these peoples, especially the Abenaki, as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we gather today. In that spirit, today we will begin by acknowledging that we are guests in this land. We need to respect and help protect the lands within our use.

- 3. HCC public and non-public minutes for the 9/21/21 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously. Rob Knight made a motion to unseal the non-public minutes for 9/21/21 since no confidential information was discussed. James Newsom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- 4. HCC mail: The mail was circulated.
- 5. Treasurer's report: James Newsom reported that the Conservation account has \$39,469 and the Town Forest account has \$10,051. Ron Klemarczyk expects the Foote Lot timber sale will net about \$15,000 for the Town Forest account.
- 6. Town report: The HCC annual report is due 1/6/22. It was agreed to ask Lissa Jones to write the report again this year since she has done such an excellent job in prior years. Lissa will also be asked, as HCC Treasurer, to prepare the financial report which is due 2/10/22.
- 7. Budget request: The Budget Committee has requested the HCC present a 2022 budget request at their 11/8 meeting. The merits of presenting a realistic budget similar to prior

year's budget request was discussed, versus only requesting a \$1 budget as approved by the Select Board in prior years. Bonnie Christie did not feel comfortable unless any proposed budget was reviewed and approved at a meeting of the HCC. Rob Knight made a motion to submit a \$1 budget request. James Newsom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- 8. NHACC dues: James Newsom made a motion to authorize payment of \$350 to the NH Association of Conservation Commissions for the HCC's annual dues. Bonnie Christy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The NHACC annual meeting will be held 11/6 online. HCC members were encouraged to attend. In the past the HCC has reimbursed the registration fee.
- 9. Easement monitoring: Rob Knight and Jonathan Bradstreet will start the monitoring soon. The Tyler Landing property will need to be monitored annually.
- 10. Archeological dig: Rob Knight looked at the conservation easement on the property and there appears to be no clause allowing an archeological dig.
- 11. Rollins lot mowing: Ron Klemarczyk has received one bid and is waiting to get another bid.
- 12. Town forest designation: Apparently the last time a new conservation property was designated as a town forest was at the 2008 town meeting. The Cemetery lot, Tyler Landing, and the Horne lot should be town forests. James Newsom made a motion that the HCC request an article be added to the town meeting warrant designating the Cemetery lot, Tyler Landing, and the Horne lot as town forests. Rob Knight seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- 13. Kimball cabin pine timbers: Ron Klemarczyk reported that a couple of logs were needed to replace rotten logs in one of the Kimball Lake cabins and two white pines were cut in the woods behind the lake. Ron felt appropriate trees were harvested and it was a good use of local resources.
- 14. Trail update: Ron Klemarczyk gave an update on several Boy Scout projects: the kiosk for the Little Tooky trail is complete and was dedicated; a trail along the edge of Houston Field is being held up because an abutter claims the trail is on his property; and the project to replace a rotten 12' bridge at Hawthorne Forest is just getting going.
- 15. Milfoil in Kimball Pond and Kimball Lake: DES found that some of the milfoil is invasive, but most of it is native. The invasives need to be mapped before a plan for control can be developed.
- 16. Wetlands alleged violation: James Newsom reported that DES found no violation. After reviewing the DES letter and wetland applications in the HCC mail, Bonnie Christy gave her opinion that unfortunate things are happening on town wetlands, and wetland permits and construction need to be watched closely.
- 17. Natural Resource Inventory: Bonnie Christy is arranging for Jeff Littleton to attend our next meeting and give a presentation on the options for NRI's.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM. Next HCC meeting is scheduled for 7:00 on November 16, 2021 at the town hall.

Minutes submitted by Rob Knight, Secretary.