

Hopkinton Conservation Commission
January 16, 2018 Meeting
Held at Town Hall

1/16/18 Minutes – Approved 2/20/18

Present: Lee Wilder, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Cleve Kapala, Doug Giles.

Alternates: Melissa Jones, Jonathan Bradstreet, James Newsome

Guests: Tim Blagden, Concord to Sunapee Rail Trail; Rich Houston; Jennifer Lewis (high school student) and father Jim Lewis

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chairperson Lee Wilder

OLD BUSINESS

1. Stevens Rail Trail: Tim Blagden reported that the Concord to Sunapee Rail Trail has received a grant to improve the surface of Stevens Rail Trail. HCC voted to accept their offer to improve the trail, and requested that they let HCC know if we could be of assistance. Ron Klemarczyk mentioned the need for the HCC to install a split rail fence at the Krzyzaniak end of the trail, as discussed at a previous meeting.
2. Ron Klemarczyk moved that the HCC go to non-public session to discuss a real estate transaction. Motion was approved and HCC went into non-public session at 7:15.
HCC returned to open session.
3. Mail and notices received by the HCC were circulated to the committee.
4. HCC minutes of 11/14/17: Approved.
5. Treasurer's report and budget: See Jed Merrow's email of Thursday 1/11/18, There was no further discussion in the absence of Jed.
6. Trail subcommittee update: Cleve Kapala reported that the First Day hike led by Dave Luneau was successful despite the cold weather and there were eight hikers
7. Beaver dam on Cross Road: Update: The Select Board agreed to remove the dam in the spring and make Cross Road passable, but the issue of the culvert and full drainage of the beaver swamp continues to be a topic of discussion between the Select Board and the landowner.
8. Beyer Lot NH Audubon conservation easement: Rob Knight reported Dijit Taylor contacted the director at Audubon, and he has committed to have their attorney review the easement in February.
9. Sheldon Lot easement boundaries: Foreco has not yet been able to set the pins for the exclusion area.
10. Possible conservation easement: Rob Knight is continuing discussions with the landowner.
11. New Cemetery lot: Lee Wilder reported that not much is happening, although the Cemetery Committee is interested. Discussed the conservation value of the parcel. Agreed the cost should be split between the abutter, the Cemetery Committee and the HCC. Lee Wilder and Rob Knight will meet to draft a proposal to present to the interested parties.
12. Annual monitoring of four town held conservation easements: Lee Wilder, Rob Knight, and Jonathan Bradstreet monitored the properties.
13. HCC web page: No update from Bob Lapree.
14. Warner River drainage protection: Lee Wilder and Doug Giles attended the legislative hearing, and the proposal was very warmly received.

15. Brockway maintenance: Doug Giles added an additional hand rail to the bridge and removed a blowdown.
16. Logging Contoocook River lot: Ron Klemarczyk will plan a logging operation for the spring when the snowmobile trail is no longer being actively used.
17. HCC parcels and tracts with Tim Fleury: Lee Wilder and Ron Klemarczyk met with Tim Fleury to provide data for the new database of town forests and conservation lands.
18. Report for the Town Report: Prepared by Melissa Jones. Appreciation was conveyed.
19. Posting Brockway/Carson properties: Lee Wilder circulated signs printed by NH Audubon on Tyvek paper. They will be posted when the weather is better.
20. 4-H camper in 2018: James Newsome will be meeting with Steve Chamberlin tomorrow. James will contact the camp to reserve space in an appropriate session.

NEW BUSINESS

1. NHACC and Five Rivers Capital Region Roundtable: Scheduled for February 5. Ron Klemarczyk and Rob Knight will attend on behalf of the HCC.
2. Anti – Wildlife tracking bill (SB 451): There were no comments on this bill.
3. Red Pine Scale found: Rob Klemarczyk reported that red pine scale has been found in Mast Yard, and it will probably spread to infect any red pine plantations in the area.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Minutes submitted by Rob Knight, Secretary.

Next HCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20 at 7 PM at Town Hall anteroom.

Rob is the host.