

Hopkinton Conservation Commission
May 15, 2018 Meeting
Held at Kimball Cabin

5/15/18 Minutes – Approved 6/12/18

Present: Lee Wilder, Jed Merrow, Rob Knight, Cleve Kapala, Doug Giles, Bob LaPree
Alternates: James Newsome
Visitors: Bonnie Christie & Ginny Haines from the Recycling Committee
Meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Chairperson Lee Wilder

OLD BUSINESS

1. Recycling plastic bags initiative: Bonnie Christie & Ginny Haines from the Recycling Committee asked for HCC support to reduce the use of plastic bags. After discussion HCC agreed to support signs at local businesses reminding shoppers to use their reusable bags.
2. Mail and notices received by the HCC were circulated to the committee.
3. HCC minutes of 4/17/18: Accepted as presented.
4. Treasurer's report: There was no activity in April. Paid an appraiser bill of \$1,000 in March. Report accepted.
5. Trail subcommittee update: Cleve Kapala and Bob Lapree removed a large fallen pine at Hawthorn.
6. Beyer Lot NH Audubon conservation easement: Rob Knight reported that a draft conservation easement has been reviewed by the OSC. Ron Klemarczyk is still concerned about retaining the right to remove a pile of stones for other trail work.
7. Sheldon Lot easement boundaries: Foreco will set pins June 12. Then the lot should be monitored by Lee and Rob.
8. Possible conservation easements:
 - Rob Knight reported that the West Hopkinton landowner has agreed to pay for the survey.
 - Five Rivers has applied for a grant to help with the cost of the possible easement in Contoocook. Bob LaPree and Ron Klemarczyk continue to do boundary investigation to help reduce the cost of a survey. Rob expressed concern that a Groundwater Resources Trust Fund grant might conflict with the primary goal of using the farmland.
 - Bob LaPree reported that the OSC is looking at a lot with 1000' of frontage on the Contoocook River. The OSC went to the Select Board and got a positive response. Next step is to appraise the lot. Bob will come back to the HCC to request authorization to pay for an appraisal.
9. New Cemetery lot: Lee Wilder reported that the Cemetery Trustees are not interested in participating in the purchase of the lot.
10. Logging Contoocook River lot: On hold until the town has appraised values for the lots it wants to swap.
11. Posting Brockway/Carson properties against hunting: Lee Wilder and Doug Giles have completed the posting.

12. Stevens Rail Trail: Ron Klemarczyk reported by email that the Rail Trail group will pay for gates on the Steven rail trail. If a gate is placed on the trail next to the opening on Krzyzaniak Lane, we may not need the split rail fence.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Potential fee purchase of land in Contoocook. This was discussed with the Select Board who are unwilling to consider purchase as long as the parcel in question has a boundary dispute. The HCC will make an offer in writing to the abutter to settle the dispute.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Rob Knight, Secretary.

Next HCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 7:15 PM at Kimball Cabin.

Melissa is the host.