Hopkinton Conservation Commission October 10, 2023 Meeting Held at the Hopkinton Town Hall

## **10/10/2023 Minutes** – Approved 11/21/23

Present: Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Jonathan Bradstreet, Bonnie Christie, Alternates: Molly Hardenbergh, Katherine Mitchell,

Absent: James Newsom, Melissa Jones, Bob LaPree, Stephanie Kratsios

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Ron Klemarczyk.

- 1. HCC public and non-public minutes for September 19, 2023 were accepted as presented.
- 2. HCC mail: Mail was circulated.
- 3. Treasurer's report: There was no Treasurer's report.
- 4. Parmenter gift of 17 acres on Beech Hill Road: The town has received the deed. Rob knight was thanked for his work in facilitating this gift. The Select Board will hold a hearing at 6:00 Monday 10/23 regarding accepting the gift. HCC members are requested to attend the hearing and provide a quorum for a HCC meeting at the same time to accept the gift. Rob Knight made a motion to request that the HCC Chair send a letter of thanks to Carol Parmenter. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Christie and passed unanimously.
- 5. Unseal Parmenter non-public minutes: Rob Knight made a motion to unseal any non-public minutes relating to the Parmenter gift, provided the minutes did not contain discussion on other still active real estate negotiations. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Christie and passed unanimously.
- 6. Tyler Landing update: Ron Klemarczyk reported that work on the driveway and parking area is scheduled to begin this week.
- 7. Ongoing maintenance fund: Tabled until Bob Lapree can be present.
- 8. Monitoring: Discussed the goal of having more than one person handle the monitoring for the seven properties which are supposed to be annually monitored. Ideally there would be two monitors for each property. Katherine Mitchell will partner on Tyler Landing; Bonnie Christie on Brockway; Molly Hardenbergh on Hawthorne; Jonathan Bradstreet on Rose and Janeway; and partners still needed for Moss and Herrick.
- 9. Trails update: Kearsarge Avenue Rail Connector: Ron Klemarczyk reported that Chuck Rose has started work on site. The trail will be surfaced with stone dust.
- 10. Zoning wetland committee: There was no report.
- 11. Policy on commissioners making public comments as individuals: James Newsom is working on a draft policy.
- 12. Natural Resource Inventory: Katherine Mitchell reported that Elise has been incorporating the feedback from various HCC commissioners and will give us the final report tomorrow. The goal is to approve the NRI at this meeting and send it to the Planning Board so they have it well prior to their 10/17 hearing. Several commissioners expressed unhappiness at approving the NRI while changes are still being made and before the HCC has seen the revised report. Discussed the concern that if a draft NRI is released to the public, members of the public will request more changes. Agreed that it is critical that the Planning Board have the NRI as a resource while they consider the proposed zoning changes.

Katherine Mitchell made a motion to provide the NRI with Elise's edits to the Planning Board, but title it "Natural Resource Inventory, pending final approval by the Conservation Commission". The motion was seconded by Rob Knight and passed unanimously.

Jonathan Bradstreet made a motion, seconded by Rob Knight to adjourn to non-public meeting per RSA 91 A:3 II (d) Acquisition of real estate. Vote was unanimous in favor. The Committee adjourned to non-public session at 8:23 PM. The Committee returned from non-public session at 8:26 PM. Jonathan Bradstreet made a motion, seconded by Rob Knight to seal the minutes until the project is able to go public or removed from consideration. Vote was unanimous in favor.

13. Trail maintenance: Molly Hardenberg reported that the First Parsonage Trail between Putney Hill and Dolly Road is somewhat overgrown, making walking unpleasant. Molly asked how the trail was maintained. Molly will reach out to Lucia Kittredge, Chair of the Trails subcommittee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM. Next HCC meeting is scheduled for 7:00 on November 21, 2023 at the Town Hall. Discussed changing the meeting date because of the Thanksgiving holiday that week, but everyone present said that the 11/21 date would work for them.

Minutes submitted by Rob Knight.