

Hopkinton Conservation Commission  
January 17, 2023 Meeting  
Held at the Hopkinton Town Hall

**1/17/23 Minutes – Accepted 2/20/23**

Present: James Newsom, Rob Knight, Ron Klemarczyk, Jonathan Bradstreet, Bonnie Christie,  
Alternate Molly Hardenbergh  
Absent: Melissa Jones, Bob LaPree, Alternate: Stephanie Kratsios

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by James Newsom.

1. HCC public and non-public minutes for December 20, 2022 were accepted as presented.
2. HCC mail: The mail was circulated.
3. Treasurer's report: Melissa Jones reported by email that at the end of December the balance in the Conservation account was \$158,362.93 and the Town Forest account was \$26,624.95.
4. Tyler Landing improvements: We have received a sign from the Drinking Water Trust Fund program that is to be posted on the property, acknowledging their financial support of the project. It will be put up by the trailhead in the spring.  
Rob Knight heard back from Cathy Chesley that the two farm plots will be used in 2023. Discussed the problem of the black plastic mulch breaking down over time. Bonnie Christie will pull up the black plastic mulch in the spring.  
There is about a third of a cord of firewood resulting from cutting back the field edge. Rob Knight burns firewood for heat and asked permission to take the firewood since he did the work on the field edge with his chainsaw and fuel. Bonnie Christie said it would be better to leave the wood in place as carbon storage. Ron Klemarczyk moved that the firewood be given to Rob Knight. It was seconded by Jon Bradstreet and passed with James Newsom, Ron Klemarczyk, Jonathan Bradstreet, and Molly Hardenbergh voting in favor, Bonnie Christie voting against, and Rob Knight abstaining.
5. Class VI roads committee: Ron Klemarczyk reported that there is no update to report since the last HCC meeting.
6. Saving Special Places conference: April 15 in Alton. Rob Knight moved that the HCC encourage members to attend and reimburse the registration cost for any HCC members that attend. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Christie and passed unanimously.
7. Zoning wetland committee: No update.
8. Natural Resource Inventory update: Bonnie Christie received the maps today and will circulate them to the HCC members.
9. Transfer Station trash along Deer Meadow Brook: James Newsom will discuss doing a trash cleanup as a Rotary project at the next Rotary board meeting. James also spoke to Neal Cass about putting up a catch fence along the side of the Transfer Station. Neal was in favor but did not commit to a time frame. Bonnie Christie moved that the Chair of the HCC send a letter to Neal Cass and the Select Board explaining the situation and requesting that a fence be put up to catch debris, the fence to be paid for from the DPW/Transfer Station budget. It was seconded by Ron Klemarczyk and passed unanimously. James Newsom will write the letter.

James Newsom made a motion, seconded by Jonathan Bradstreet to adjourn to non-public meeting per RSA 91 A:3 II (d) Acquisition of real estate and (c) reputational matter. Vote unanimous in favor. The Committee adjourned to non-public session at 7:30 PM. The Committee returned from non-public session at 7:56 PM. James Newsom made a motion, seconded by Jonathan Bradstreet to seal the minutes until the project is able to go public or removed from consideration. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM. Next HCC meeting is scheduled for 7:00 on February 21, 2023 at the town hall.

Minutes submitted by Rob Knight, Secretary.