

Hopkinton Conservation Commission

March 16, 2021 Meeting

Held via ZOOM per the Governor's Emergency Order #12/Executive Order 2020-04

3/16/21 Minutes – DRAFT

Roll call taken. Present: James Newsom, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Melissa Jones, Bob Lapree, Jonathan Bradstreet, Bonnie Christie, Molly Hardenbergh (Alt), Juliana Dapice (Alt), Stephanie Kratsios (Alt)

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by James Newsom and James read a statement regarding the Governor's Emergency Order #12/Executive Order 2020-04 and how the meeting would be conducted online.

1. HCC minutes for 2/16/21 meetings were not presented.
2. HCC mail: The mail was circulated by email.
3. Treasurer's report: After paying Five Rivers \$2,500, the Conservation account has \$25,656 and the Town Forest account has \$10,050.
4. Access to Gould Lot Town Forest: Ron Klemarczyk reported that Brian Cressey, who is buying the Walls property, has agreed to deed the town a ROW across a corner of the property for access to the back part of the Gould Town Forest. In return, Brian asked that the existing snowmobile trail be moved off the Wall property onto the town forest to avoid a potential house lot.
Ron made a motion to allow the snowmobile trail to be moved onto the Gould Lot Town Forest in return for deeded access to the Gould Lot Town Forest across the Wall property. Melissa Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
5. Abenaki Trails Project: Bonnie Christie suggested that it would be appropriate to add an Abenaki name to conservation properties that are now named after the white prior owners. After discussion agreed to invite Daryl Peasley to the next HCC meeting so he can give us information about properties that were particularly important to the Abenaki and suggest some naming opportunities.
Bob Lapree suggested that Tyler Landing would be a good location for an indigenous garden where heritage seeds could be used to grow crops that the natives grew. Bob will consult with Daryl Peasley and make a proposal at the next HCC meeting.
6. Trails update: Ron Klemarczyk reported that the new trail off Stevens Rail Trail ("Hemlock Spur Trail") is getting a lot of use.
7. NRI and Master Plan update: Discussed goals for an NRI and how to do an NRI for Hopkinton. Agreed to establish a subcommittee consisting of Stephanie Kratsios, Ron Klemarczyk, and Bonnie Christie to recommend how to move forward with an NRI.
8. Sidewalk project in Contoocook: The Select Board would like a letter of support for their grant application. James Newsom made a motion to authorize James to write a letter of support from the HCC. Ron Klemarczyk seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
9. Dead ash at Ransmeier property: Ron Klemarczyk reported that Dan Blanchet plans to remove a dead ash tree from the Ransmeier frontage on Rte 103.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM. Next HCC meeting is scheduled for 7:00 on April 20, 2021.
Minutes submitted by Rob Knight, Secretary.