

Conservation Commission August 20th 2019 Meeting Minutes Draft Location: Town Hall.

Present: Mary Ann Hill, Shawn Hanson, James Kibler, Glenn Schrempf, Paul Melanson, Robert Weiner, Karen Ayers

Guest: Jess & Brian from the Forest society. Kate Kibler

Absent: Lou Gargiulo, Dale Ohsberg, Cathy Golas, Nancy Roka, Bethany MacAvoy

Call the meeting to order: 6:35pm

S. Hanson made Karen Ayers and Glenn Schrempf voting members for the meeting.

New Business:

Brian and Jess from the Forest Society distributed a working draft of the Ox Pasture Conservation project. This document discusses project structure, estimated budget, fundraising process and goals. It's a 5-page document that is to help guide all parties in this project forward.

The Kiblers, and Conservation commission members asked several questions of the Forest Society, topics discusses, state grants, private fundraising ideas, production of a calendar of events and milestones, local grant opportunities and many other ideas for fund raising.

S. Hanson will ask the Treasurer if there is a way to designate any private donations made specifically for this project. Where and how the money would be held.

The Kiblers discussed the idea of reaching outside of our Hampton Falls community and using social media and "go fund me" as ways to help with raising the money necessary to complete this project.

The Forest Society is planning to attend our next Conservation Commission with their fundraising specialist.

The commission discussed the cost of town council to review the agreement between the Town and the Kiblers for this project.

Motion: to pay Upton & Hatfield, LLP \$405 for reviewing the agreement between the Town and Kiblers for the Ox Pasture Conservation Easement. 1st Mary Ann Hill 2nd Robert Wiener all in favor.

Marsh LN Property issue. During the annual walk of the Marsh LN property SELT found that the neighbor to the property has cut a few trees down on town property and are also storing landscape supplies on the Town land. SELT has suggested putting up a fence to deter this encroachment. The Conservation Commission has one quote to install a 4ft chain link fence on 200ft of the property line at a cost of \$4000. This item will be added to next year's conservation budget.

M. Hill has been accepted to the Invasive plant academy offered by UNH.

Motion: to reimburse Mary Ann Hill \$65 which is the cost of the invasive plant academy training. 1st S. Hanson 2nd Robert Wiener all in favor.

Other:

Glenn Schrempf is very concerned that the Taylor River right at the Drinkwater and King RD intersection has been dammed up which is not allowing water flow. It was thought that this temporary damming of water was going to be removed after completion of the culvert replacement, it hasn't been removed. K. Ayers will review this issue with the Town Administrator and report back to the Commission.

Motion to accept the May meeting minutes as amended: 1st S. Hanson 2nd M. Hill. All in favor.

Old Business:

1. Conservation commission handout. Update: pictures will be loaded on Google drive for Cathy to access.
2. Story Map of conservation lands and trails. In process.
3. Update on Town Forest tree trimming activity. No update.
4. Policy or Procedure adoption for land purchase or easements over a certain amount. I think the voters need to vote on large projects. Still in process. Examples from Exeter and Durham NH.
5. Plan for yearly trail maintenance like we do for road side cleanup. In process: needed at Marsh Ln.
6. Communication outreach to resident's for use of Conservation lands.
7. Improve our online presence for conservation lands advertising conservation land available to residence to use. In process
8. Long range planning for Conservation Commission Create Conservation Plan, including land priorities, easement procedures and policies and use. In process.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm

Minutes submitted by S.Hanson

Next Meeting: September 10th, 6:30pm Town Hall.