

CONSERVATION COMMISSION	September 13, 2022, 6:30 PM
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS	TOWN HALL

DRAFT

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Paul Melanson, Robert Wiener, Ann Reis, Shawn Hanson, Mary Ann Hill

Non-voting: Karen Ayers

Absent: James Kibler; Cathy Golas; Lou Gargiulo, Selectman's Rep; Brianna O'Brien, Conservation Coordinator

Guests: Jay Diener, Rayann Dionne, Debbie Tanner Chaput, Karen Tanner Thornton, Beverly Turner

Karen Ayers was made a voting member.

C. PRESENTATION: Jay Diener and Rayann Dionne from Hampton Conservation Commission and SHEA presented the portion of the Estuary Management Plan that outlined the prioritization of land around the estuary for marsh migration. Jay spoke about the goals for the Estuary Management Plan: protecting wildlife habitat, allowing for marsh migration, ensuring flood protection for towns, maintaining a healthy marsh through ditching and assisting accretion, and education about the estuary. Rayann gave a brief explanation for why the estuary is so important for the benefit of our visitors. She then presented the research done on parcels in the area surrounding the saltmarsh which would be optimal for marsh migration, and described the ranking system. Through DES, the Coastal Program and NOAA we can quantify specific locations for and the abundance of wildlife. Other organizations such as PREP, FB Environmental, Fish and Game and DHR and Audubon Society can also use the SHEA's survey. Overlapping of goals. Performing ditching remediation will help strengthen the marsh. Want to build some of these goals into the Master Plans for the different towns so they are all in agreement and working together. Questions to consider are environmental, (groundwater), economic (repair/rebuild costs), esthetic and historical benefits of the marsh, and physical infrastructure such as roads, culverts the Seabrook sewage treatment plant, sewer lines.

Next steps are to meet with all Town boards to discuss the plan and offer guidance for towns so they can operate in sync and obtain grant funding. FB Environmental wants to complete the plan by the end of this year. It is intended to be a working document. Towns need to share opinions, what they are uncomfortable with and what they really like about the proposed Estuary Management Plan.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Marsh Lane:** M. Hill contacted Todd Davidson of Oakwood Tree Experts and he is willing to deliver some wood chips. He knows the owner we have the ROW from and he is familiar with the tight maneuvering needed for the location. M. Hill spoke with Russ Hilliard about moving the dog sign to obstruct access by RV's. She also reported that there is another gap in the trees toward the rear of the property that also has been used as access for RV's. A barrier is needed there as well. M. Hill walked the property with a rep from SELT. Works on the invasive plants met with approval. Protection from RV damage recommended.

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2. **Raspberry Farm:** M. Hill reported on the invasive plant control by RCCD and the interns. She also reported that she spoke with the Town Administrator about getting gravel for the parking area and where the driveway meets the road. Some one asked the Town Administrator for a permit to bait deer on the Raspberry Farm. That request was denied because it would mean giving a single individual private use of Town property.
3. **Mitigation:** S. Hanson has not received a response to his email from the Trustee for the Brady property. A letter will be sent.
4. **Citizen's Guide to Understanding Hampton Falls' Land Use Regulations That Protect Critical Water Resources:** B. O'Brien was not present to discuss the Guide.
5. **REPORTS:**
 - **Depot Landing:** P. Melanson has been assigned the job of looking into doing a 'living shoreline' to repair the damage done by boat wakes. He has contacted DES for guidance on how to proceed. The Depot Rd Committee was originally a subcommittee of the Recreation Commission but they felt the Conservation Commission had better resources. Will probably need a grant.
 - **Green Head Traps:** The traps have been recovered and are stacked behind the building at the Brush Dump. M. Hill will get a tarp to cover them for the Winter. D. Gandt is sending the bill from the Girl Scouts.
 - **Clay Brook Forest:** J. Kibler was approved for a lot line merger of Map 5 lots 43 and 44 at the Planning Board meeting August 23, 2022.
 - **White Goods Day:** Cancelled because it was noted that the Town needed a Transfer Station Permit to hold White Goods Day and did not have one. The application has now been made.
6. **Financial Reports:**
 - a. Conservation Commission fund balance: \$160,907.96
 - b. Budget balance: \$8,314

F. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES: Minutes from August 11, 2022. P. Melanson made a motion to approve minutes from August 11, 2022, as written, S. Hanson seconded. Motion Passed.

F. ADJOURNMENT: S. Hanson made a motion to adjourn, P. Melanson seconded. Passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM

NEXT CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULED October 11, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

These minutes prepared by Mary Ann Hill