

Conservation Commission	March 21, 2023 6:30pm
Town of Hampton Falls	Town Hall

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

- a) Ms. Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

2) ROLL CALL

- a) Present: Mary Ann Hill, Chair, Ann Reis, Cathy Golas, Robert Wiener, Karen Ayers, Alternate
- b) Absent:, Shawn Hanson, Paul Melanson, Alternate, Lou Gargiulo, Selectman's Rep
- c) Ms. Ayers was made a regular member for this meeting

3) NEW BUSINESS

· Summer Intern: M. Hill posted the position for summer intern on the Town website and on Handshake, a career services site for college students. She received an application from a student the next day. The application is open until the end of April.

4) OLD BUSINESS

- a) Raspberry Farm:

- i) Plans to plant native plants in place of the invasives was discussed. M. Hill checked the State Forest Nursery site for native trees and shrubs but all the desirable species were out of stock. She will check again later in the Spring.

- ii) Ms. Hill also found several sources for seeds to fill in the 13 bare spots where last year's brush piles were burned and along the stone wall. Ms. Ayers made a motion to pay up to \$40.00 for a pasture seed mix for overseeding the bare spots at the Raspberry Farm. Ms. Golas seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

- iii) The sink holes on the hill above the pond should be filled for safety. Ms. Ayers suggested using material dredged from the pond to fill the holes.

- b) Citizens Guide:

- i) Everything is finished. The formatting should be all set and the map should be all set as well. Ms. O'Brien is doing the legwork for getting it printed. M. Hill will check on what price and printing options she has come up with.

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ii) After some discussion R, Weiner made a motion that we have 100 copies of the guide printed to post everywhere, have available at Town Hall and distribute at Road Side Clean Up day. A. Reis seconded. Motion passed.

5) COMMUNICATION TO BOARD MEMBERS

a) Planning Board:

i) The plan for 12 Lafayette is back on the drawing board. They estimate next year for revision.

ii) 5 Kensington Road scheduled for March 28th.

b) ZBA:

i) 51 Depot project has been approved with conditions with regard to the pavers and drainage.

ii) 5 Kensington Rd. waiver to put a community well in the set back was approved with conditions.

6) OTHER

a) Greenhead traps: The proposal from David Gandt for the Girl Scouts to set out, replace/repair the greenhead traps was compared to a quote from Dragon Mosquito Control. Items discussed were: number of new traps per year, cost per new trap, cost for placement and retrieval

i) Dragon would build 5 new traps per year while the Scouts proposed 10/yr.

ii) Scouts had a lower cost per trap, and lower cost for placement and retrieval.

iii) The overall cost is less with the Scouts.

iv) The question was raised if we really need 10 new traps each year. We will look into this question.

v) Since the Conservation Commission started this as a project several decades ago as a project with the Boy Scouts, and it was more about it being a scout project than about greenheads, and it cost less, we should stay with the Scouts.

vi) There are still concerns about winter storage since sitting out in the open under a trap just contributes to their degeneration.

vii) C. Golas made a motion that we accept the Girl Scouts proposal to handle the fly traps with more oversight from the commission and to pay \$1750 for 10 new traps and placement and retrieval. A. Reis seconded. Motion passed.

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b) Discussion of potential Aquatic Restoration Mitigation properties:

i) M. Hill reiterated her idea to remove some of the phragmites from the town forest and put it into the marsh ditches, once they are not viable, for ditch remediation, instead of mowing the marsh grass adjacent to the ditches.

ii) Ms. Ayers suggested dredging the pond at the Raspberry Farm and using the dredge to fill some of the sinkholes where the old stump pile was.

c) Roadside cleanup- Looking at the week before school vacation. It is not so much a single day event. R. Weiner has the banner. The Commission will look to have a table at the Depot on April 15th with birdhouses and (maybe) the Hampton Falls Citizen's Guide.

7) FINANCIAL

- Fund Bal: \$160,645.86
- Budget Balance: \$10,700

8) MINUTES

a) February 21, 2023 Minutes

b) A. Reis moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Weiner. Motion passed.

9) ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:15