

Conservation Commission	May 9, 2023
Town of Hampton Falls	Town Hall

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Ms. Hill called the meeting to order at 6:39pm

B. ROLL CALL

- a. **Present:** Mary Ann Hill, Chair, Karen Ayers, Shawn Hanson, Robert Wiener, Cathay Golas
- b. **Absent:** Ann Reis, Nancy Roka, alternate, Lou Gargiulo, Selectman's Rep
- c. **Staff:** Brianna O'Brien
- d. Ms. Ayers was made a voting member

C. NEW BUSINESS

D. OLD BUSINESS

a. Raspberry Farm:

- i. Ms. Hill has seeds for overseeding Raspberry Farm but they haven't planted yet. They may have rotted with the rain but now it is too dry. Ms. Hill will wait for the right time.
- ii. Ms. Hill got two free Meyer spruce seedlings at a conference. There was discussion about where they should go based on how fast and tall they grow. It was decided near the pond area but Ms. Ayers offered to go with Ms. Hill to find the best spot.
- iii. Ms. Ayers has plenty of oak seedlings if those are needed.
- iv. Ms. Golas noted that the bird houses have fallen down in the last week or so. The houses seem salvageable but they need new posts.
- v. Ms. Ayers noted that blue bird houses should not be cleaned out year to year.
- vi. Glen's memorial is all set; it just needs to be ordered. Ms. Golas offered to take on that project.
- vii. Ms. Hill discussed the shrubs from state nursery: red oak, button bush. The order should be put together in December. They are delivered to the Rockingham complex.

b. Interns:

- i. Ms. Hill has hired two interns and they will start June 2.
- ii. Ms. Hill wants to hire 3- there is definitely enough work.

Ms. Hill moved to hire a third intern and pay them up to \$2,000 from the Conservation Fund. Ms. Golas seconded.. Mr. Wiener and Ms. Ayers voted in favor. Mr. Hanson abstains. Motion passed.

c. Greenhead traps:

- i. Ms. Hill has not heard anything back from David Gandt. Mr. Hanson said the traps should go out before June 1. Ms. Hill talked to Karen Anderson about winter storage. There is supposed to be a container that Rec is going to use for the skating rink materials and there might be spare space for the traps.

Conservation Commission	May 9, 2023
Town of Hampton Falls	Town Hall

- d. Citizen's Guide:** The guide is finished and on the website. 100 copies have been professionally printed and are available at the Town Hall. The invoice arrived.
- e. Turtle crossing signs:** The Commission reviewed the places that they discussed last month and told Ms. Golas to look at options and purchase as many that \$300 will get.
- f. Roadside Cleanup:**
 - i. Coca-Cola told Ms. Ayers that they will clean Stard Rd on a regular basis from now on.
 - ii. There was a discussion about how to improve outreach for the annual roadside clean-up.

E. COMMUNICATION TO BOARD MEMBERS

- a.** Planning Board- 5 Kensington Rd hearing has been continued to May 23rd- likely because there was no septic system on the plan.
- b.** SHEA – The Estuary management plan was presented to the Planning Board. It focused on stormwater management, salt marsh remediation, and a plan to talk to Planning Boards to get the recommendations into ordinances and master plans. It also discusses how information should be provided to new home buyers and mentors near the estuary.. There is mention of a water gauging network. Ms. Hill would like to see a water gauge at the Depot. An hour after high tide, that area was essentially open water.
- c.** Rail Trail- NHDES is still developing their hydrogeological study to determine the best flow of water through the estuary and how that impacts the Rail Trail
- d.** SHEA's Coastal Resilience Fair will be May 20th 9-12 at Centre School.
- e.** The SHEA coordinator position has been funded through the Project of Special Merit grant and SHEA is moving forward with another grant application to help support additional funding for that project as well as other elements outlined in the Estuary Management Plan.
- f.** Meetings and webinars:
 - i. May 10th 1-3pm The Hampton Seabrook Estuary Collaborative webinar
 - ii. June 2 State of the Estuaries Conference (PREP) in Portsmouth. It is \$50 for the all day conference.

F. FINANCIAL

- a.** Vote for Esri license: \$100

Mr. Hanson moves to pay the \$100 invoice for ESRI ArcGIS. Second by Mr. Weiner. All approved.

- b.** Vote for Citizen Guide invoice: \$359.45 Brayshaw Company, LLC

Mr. Hanson moves to pay the \$359.45 invoice to Brayshaw Company, LLC, Seconded Ms. Golas. All approved.

- c.** Fund Bal: \$161,903.20
 - i. Budget was rolled over- \$937.69

Conservation Commission	May 9, 2023
Town of Hampton Falls	Town Hall

- ii. There was discussion about the RSA that allows for the budget to be rolled over. The DRA interpretation is that leftover money in the budget needs to be voted on by the Town in order to get moved to the Conservation fund. The Commission agrees this is a smart way to document where the money comes from and goes to in order to be transparent with the Town.

d. Budget Balance \$10,700

e. Conservation Land Capital Reserve Fund beg. Bal. \$45,148.67 Current Balance ~ \$92,000.

G. MINUTES

a. Review minutes from April 11, 2023

b. Mr. Hanson moves to approve. Mr. Wiener seconds. All in favor.

H. ADJOURNMENT

a. Mr. Winer moved to adjourn at 7:45pm. Second by Mr. Hanson. All in favor.