

Conservation Commission	August 8, 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 6:40pm

### B. ROLL CALL

- a. **Present:** Mary Ann Hill, Chair, Shawn Hanson
- b. **Absent:** Cathy Golas, Robert Wiener, Paul Melanson, Ann Reis, Nancy Roka, alternate, Karen Ayers, alternate, Lou Gargiulo, Selectman's Rep
- c. **Staff:** Brianna O'Brien
- d. Beverly Mutrie was also in attendance

### C. NEW BUSINESS

- a. RCCD would like to donate 5 parcels to the Town. Those present discussed how many acres there were, who were the original owners and the language in the deeds.

### D. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Farmers Market: One birdhouse was given away. Those present discussed that there is not much foot traffic. They need a sandwich board or some type of signage. There is an easel in the Commission's room that could be used.
- b. Dog station at raspberry farm: The Town Administrator in contact with the dog station person.
- c. Raspberry Farm: Ms. Hill got a Garmin GPS for the interns. They surveyed Raspberry Farm post herbicide spraying and trimmed back trees and shrubs around edge of the field. Whenever weather allows, Steve will mow but some parts of the field are very wet.
- d. Other:
  - i. Russ Hilliard cut back the sumac and some of the other overgrown vegetation around the Depot parking area.
  - ii. Ms. Hill met with Kevin Lucey to talk about what they could do for marsh projects. The interns have measured the ditches and mapped out where there are problems where it looks like there is some marsh collapse and problem species.

### E. COMMUNICATION TO BOARD MEMBERS

- a. Interns' activities – The interns pulled more invasives at Depot, took a survey of plants in the saltmarsh and put together a guide for identifying different marsh species. They did not find any pepperweed.
  - i. With the GPS, the interns have walked the trails at Raspberry Farm and Marsh Lane. They also drove around and marked where the invasives are around Town and put it onto a map.
  - ii. Ms. Mutrie asked what the point of this was. Ms Hill answered: public awareness and to follow up on the work that was done a few years ago. The information is used to give RCCD the information they need to give a quote for spraying the invasives. They talked about doing more public outreach with the map and at the Farmer's Market.

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- b.** SHEA- On September 13th 6:30pm SHEA is hosting a Photography Workshop at the Town Hall. They are meeting with the Selectman tomorrow night to talk about working with the Seacoast Science Center to host a kayak tour out of the Depot. They are still working on the next steps for the Estuary Management Plan.
- c.** Planning Board – The Planning Board approved a special exception for having a physical therapy business at 87 Lafayette Rd. They also reviewed the report on the public hearing for the Seabrook proposal to drill more wells on Weare Rd. and Stard Rd.
  - i.** Those present discussed that the Town should have a public hearing to educate the public about wells, groundwater, and aquifers.
- d.** Meetings and webinars: September 27, 11 AM, Hampton Seabrook Estuary (HSE) Collaborative meeting
  - i.** The interns were invited to present about their marsh mapping projects.

#### **F. FINANCIAL**

- a.** Fund Bal: \$161,950.73
- b.** Budget Balance, \$5,267.96
- c.** Conservation Land Capital Reserve Fund beg. Bal. \$45,148.67 Current Balance ~ \$92,000

#### **G. MINUTES**

- a.** Meeting minutes could not be voted on as there was not a quorum present.

#### **H. ADJOURNMENT**

- a.** Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm