Conservation Commission August 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes, DRAFT
Location: Town Hall The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M.
Present: Mary Ann Hill, Shawn Hanson, Paul Melanson, Karen Ayers, James Kibler
Absent: Cathy Golas, Nancy Roka, Glenn Schrempf, Robert Wiener, Lou Gargiulo, Selectman

Guest Speaker: Liz Durfee of EF Design and Planning, LLC. Liz spoke on “Developing a Management Plan for the Hampton-Seabrook Estuary”. First was the audit of the 3 towns to summarize the screening of master plans, zoning ordinances, land use regs., and other studies that pertain to the estuary. The plan is a way to coordinate activities and issues, set priorities, monitor changes, design ecological strategies, recreation, increase awareness of heritage and cultural aspects. The community’s role is to assist in the development of the plan and implementing recommendations using the plan as a resource.

Raspberry Farm/Town Forest:
- Raspberry Farm field has been mowed.
- Schedule work sessions to get rid of some of the invasive plants along the margin between the field by the pond and the woods when cooler.

Marsh Lane:
- Invasive plants in the parking area need to be removed to get a clear line for the fence. Coordinate work session with Raspberry Farm invasive work. M. Hill will propose some dates for volunteers to pick from.
- M. Hill contacted Central Fence & Deck on Rte. 1 about the fence. A meeting was scheduled for Aug. 20 at 3:30 with the installer at the property to verify that the ground was solid enough for the fence.
- K. Ayers will mark the line for the fence based on the survey which was done in 2007.
- M. Hill reported that a sign for the Marsh Lane Conservation Area can be placed on the pole that holds the street sign is on Route 1. The sign will be basic and say ‘Marsh Lane Conservation Area’ with an arrow and can be mounted by the Town’s Road Agent, per the Administrator.

Planning Board: The Commission received a notice of a ZBA hearing on a variance request for building into a wetland buffer. K. Ayers and M. Hill will take a look at the property. Shawn reported that the Seacoast Motor sports came before the planning board again because the neighbor’s failed septic system required them to change their configuration.

SHEA: Shawn reported that SHEA has received another grant for $12,000 for the estuary work. SHEA still needs volunteers. Anyone interested in the estuary should contact Shawn. Photo contest in October.

Story Map: No report.

Claybrook Forest: James reported that the Forest Society has received a grant for $44,000 toward the Clay Brook Forest from VF Corp. Total cost will be $725,000, total received to date is $580,461. Made an LCHIP application. James will explore making up a slide show to put on the website. Kingston has a slide show on their site as an example. James has the NHACC list of several other grant possibilities.

NRI: M. Hill and P. Melanson have set a deadline of September 11 so members can attend the Community Conservation Cohort training.

Other:
- P. Melanson and M. Hill are signed up for the Community Conservation Cohort training session to be held via Zoom on Sept. 11, Oct. 9, and Nov. 13 from 9 to noon.
- We received the request for the Commission’s budget for 2021. It is due Sept. 1. It was agreed to add $2,000 for an Intern for 2021.
- We received the Conservation Easement Monitoring/Stewardship Reports from Rockingham County for The Raspberry Farm and Applecrest farm. Aside from the report of heavy infestation by invasive species along the field edge and pond edge at the Raspberry Farm there were no areas of concern on either property.

Financial report: Expenditures this month included: $100 contribution to SHEA; $100 to ESRI (ArcGis); and $875 to the Boy Scouts for green head trap construction and deployment. July 31st Budget Balance is $7,850.30. Balance in the escrow account is $90,536.95.

Minutes: Minutes from July 14th were reviewed. S. Hanson made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, James seconded. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn: Motion made by M. Hill, Shawn seconded. Passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50PM

The next meeting will be September 8, 2020
Respectfully submitted, Mary Ann Hill