

# Hollis Conservation Commission

Minutes of December 7, 2022

Approved January 4, 2023

Regular Members Present: Tom Dufresne, Thomas Davies, Mark Post, Paul Edmunds, Joseph Connelly, Karen Bridgeo, Peter Band

Alternate Members Present: Laura Bianco, Bernadette McQuilkin, James Plummer

BOS Liaison: Paul Armstrong

T. Dufresne called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

## COMMITTEE AND BOARD UPDATES

### Treasurer's Report

Discussion took place on the expenditures for the month of November of \$582,760, primarily for the Rock Farm properties. The remaining account balance is \$664,853.56, including the \$10,000 stewardship reserve.

There were no other updates available at meeting time.

## NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

### Law Property Site Walk December 6, 2022

T. Dufresne informed members that B. McQuilkin and he had conducted a site walk with two representatives from the University of New Hampshire, Matt Tarr, and Mike Gagnon. T. Dufresne also stated that Professor Tarr would be interested in using the Law property for bird watching instruction; he would be happy to schedule more than one. This would be possibly offered in summer.

### Winter Seminar Series

B. McQuilkin stated that Professor Tarr and Mike Gagnon would be presenting the third speaker session in April.

K. Bridgeo thanked T. Dufresne for securing the Lawrence Barn. She also shared that J. Plummer would be managing the technology for the first session, presented by Doug Tallamy, on January 10, 2023. She also shared that Doug Cygan confirmed the February 21, 2023 session on invasives. K. Bridgeo mentioned that she had been in conversation with the Wild Seed Project in Maine about possibly having a session on diversifying residential lawns and native plantings to repel ticks.

Discussion took place on the various marketing strategies for the Winter Seminar Series. K. Bridgeo asked if anyone would be willing to reach out to various other groups in town. HCC members thanked K. Bridgeo for all her work. T. Dufresne suggested that three people from the HCC meet to discuss further details on how to prepare for the seminar series.

T. Dufresne volunteered to get the key and arrive at the Lawrence barn at 5:45 pm; B. McQuilkin volunteered to bring cookies and cider, and T. Davies volunteered to help with refreshments.

### Rock Property Closing

T. Dufresne stated that the Rock Closing is scheduled for December 9, 2022. Discussion took place on how to publicize the purchase of the Rock Farm conservation easement, and that the HCC is working to maintain the rural character of Hollis.

### Stefanowicz Timber Harvest Update

T. Dufresne shared that Eric Radlof would like to inform HCC members on how timber harvests work and do an active site walk with the members of the HCC. Discussion took place on how to maintain the fields once the timber harvest is completed and when the site walk would take place. Along with the site walk, the forester suggested an experiment of stacking the tree stumps that are removed into a windrow to protect the fruit trees from deer, and this will be implemented. This idea is something that has not been tried before. This "stump wall" will be monitored to see if wildlife, such as porcupine, become an issue.

### Regular Member Change

T. Dufresne stated that P. Band will be appointed as a regular member to fill the empty seat left by Jonathan Bruneau's resignation earlier this year. T. Dufresne thanked both L. Bianco and B. McQuilkin for their graciousness in letting this occur.

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2022 Annual Report

M. Post shared that he has the annual report ready to be reviewed by the members of the HCC

Rock Farm Expenditures

T. Dufresne shared that there were additional legal fees for the Rock Farm property of \$1616.00 which were not included in the bill from George Baker of Moreau Law Offices.

*P. Edmunds motioned to authorize the payment of the \$1,616.00 for additional legal fees for the Rock Farm Property, payable to Moreau Law Offices; seconded by P. Band. All members in favor, none opposed or abstained. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0-0.*

MINUTES

*T. Dufresne motioned to accept the November 16, 2022 public minutes as written; seconded by P. Edmunds. All in favor, none opposed, none abstained. Motion carried 7-0-0.*

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

*T. Dufresne motioned to go into non-public session; seconded by P. Edmunds. All members in favor, none opposed or abstained. Motion carried 7-0-0, and the HCC entered into Non-Public session at 7:39 pm.*

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

*T. Dufresne motioned to conclude the Non-Public session and to keep the minutes sealed until voted by the HCC to release, seconded by T. Davies. T. Dufresne polled the members, all members voted to conclude the Non-Public session and keep the minutes sealed by a vote of 8-0-0. The HCC concluded Non-Public Session at 8:23 pm.*

ADJOURNMENT

*T. Dufresne motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by T. Davies. All in favor, none opposed, none abstained. Motion carried 7-0-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8.24 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Amiee Le Doux  
Recording Secretary