

Hollis Conservation Commission
Minutes of the September 20, 2023 Meeting
Approved October 4, 2023

Regular Members Present: Joseph Connelly, Mark Post, Tom Dufresne, Karen Bridgeo,
Alternate Members Present: James Plummer, Bernadette McQuilkin, Paul Armstrong
BOS Liaison: Tom Whalen
Staff: Connie Cain

Meeting was called to order at 6:30. J. Connelly appointed J. Plummer to vote in the absence of Peter Band, and B. McQuilkin to vote in the absence of Paul Edmunds.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

Planning Board Update - Bill Moseley

B. Moseley shared that the Planning Board (PB) had 1 case.

The development going in on what used to be the Flea Market approached the PB again at their last meeting. B. Moseley shared that the PB asked the developers to come up with a better landscaping plan than the one they presented. The landscaping architect will be working with Rick Hardy on planning the landscaping for that property. The developers will also be working with an environmental engineer and Kevin Anderson regarding the trash cleanup on the property. The PB voted to put a no-disturbance 100 ft buffer for the wetlands on the property.

Board of Selectmen Update - T. Whalen

There were no updates from the selectboard at this time.

Treasurer's Report - J. Connelly

At the end of August, the account had \$830,000, \$820,000 of which can be used, with \$10,000 being in stewardship.

REIMBURSEMENTS – J. Connelly

For Old Home Day on September 8, 2023:

T. Davies submitted a copy of the check he paid to the Old Home Days Committee for this year's booth rental, in the amount of \$25.00.

J. Connelly motioned to reimburse Thomas Davies in the amount of \$25.00 for the Old Home Days Booth rental; seconded by M. Post. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the motion to reimburse as stated carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

T. Dufresne submitted a receipt for several items purchased for the HCC booth.

J. Connelly motioned to reimburse T. Dufresne in the amount of \$44.39 for the Old Home Days Booth materials; seconded by M. Post. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the motion to reimburse as stated carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

Siergiewicz Gate Knox Box - J. Connelly

J. Connelly shared that he has purchased the Knox Box, and submitted the receipt for reimbursement in the amount of \$166.00 for the purchase of a "Knox Box" lock, as per the motion approved on September 6, 2023.

NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

Rock Farm Wildlife Report Review - J. Connelly

J. Connelly shared that the wildlife report had come in and had been emailed to everyone on the HCC for review. He noted that the report commented on the need for maintenance of the property. He also shared that the Hillsborough Co. Conservation District had created a contract for maintenance of the Rock property.

Discussion took place on the duration of the contract, whether or not they ought to start the contract this year, or next year, setting up a meeting with the Rock's, the deliverables on this particular report, along with invasive treatment.

J. Connelly motioned to enter into a contract between the Hollis Conservation Commission and the Hillsborough Co. Conservation District for monitoring the Rock Farm Conservation Easement area, with a term from 2023-2033, and to allocate \$600.00 for the first year's payment; seconded by M. Post. Voting in favor of entering into the contract and the expenditure were J. Connelly, M. Post, T. Dufresne, K. Bridgeo, J. Plummer and B. McQuilkin; none opposed or abstained. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

Ludwig Siergiewicz Farm - J. Connelly

J. Connelly shared that he needed to get a chain for the gate, but that the padlock, boxes and gate were already purchased. P. Armstrong noted that he would be meeting with the Fire Chief this week to confirm the location of the gate. T. Dufresne noted that Eric Radloff would be doing the invasive treatments on the property, so it would be good to allow for his equipment to get in through the area before locking the gate.

Old Home Days Wrap-Up - J. Connelly

B. McQuilkin shared that the Old Home Days booth was a success, that they had wonderful interaction and that the map was a major hit. J. Connelly and B. McQuilkin thanked everyone for their help.

Proposed Grant Workgroup - J. Connelly

J. Connelly shared that several weeks ago in non-public, there were several interested people in a grant workshop. M. Post commented that, without violating non-public, the Agricultural Workgroup was supportive of a grant workgroup. Discussion of potential meeting dates, T. Dufresne will contact grant person to arrange meeting.

J. Connelly motioned to create a joint workgroup to pursue Grant funding for potential HCC purchases; seconded by K. Bridgeo. Appointees to the workgroup are: Bernadette McQuilkin, Peter Band, Mark Post, James Plummer, and Cheryl McQuaine of the AgCom. Voting in favor of creating the workgroup and appointing those named were J. Connelly, M. Post, T. Dufresne, K. Bridgeo, J. Plummer and B. McQuilkin; none opposed or abstained. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

NH Association of Conservation Commission Annual Workshop - J. Plummer

J. Plummer mentioned that the NHACC Annual Workshop would be coming up on November 4th, 2023. He shared that the cost would be \$60.00 to attend and that he would like to go.

B. McQuilkin motioned to approve reimbursement for the Hillsborough Co. Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Conference fee for those attending in the amount of \$60.00, seconded by K. Bridgeo. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the motion to reimburse as stated carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Public Minutes of September 6, 2023 were tabled pending revisions.

Non-Public Minutes

The following revision was made on the September 6, 2023 non-public minutes:

Line 58: Revise the sentence to read "T. Whalen stated that the Town is interested...."

J. Connelly motioned to accept the non-public meeting minutes of September 6, 2023, as revised and to keep them sealed; seconded by J. Plummer. All in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

J. Connelly motioned to enter into non-public session; seconded by M. Post. Members were polled, voting in favor of entering into Non-Public Session were J. Connelly, M. Post, T. Dufresne, K. Bridgeo, J. Plummer and B. McQuilkin; none opposed or abstained. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0, and the HCC entered into Non-Public Session at 7:30 pm.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

J. Connelly motioned to conclude the Non-Public session and to keep the minutes sealed until voted by the HCC to release, seconded by J. Plummer. Members were polled, voting in favor of concluding the Non-Public Session were J. Connelly, M. Post, T. Dufresne, K. Bridgeo, J. Plummer and B. McQuilkin; none opposed or abstained. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0, and the HCC concluded Non-Public Session at 7:47 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

M. Post motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by K. Bridgeo; all members were in favor, no members opposed or abstaining. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Amiee Le Doux
Recording Secretary