

# HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Public Meeting

February 1, 2017

Approved February 15, 2017

Regular Members: Tom Dufresne, Thomas Davies, Cathy Hoffman, Mark Post  
Alternate Members: Peter Baker, Jonathan Bruneau, Laura Bianco  
Selectmen & Staff Peter Band, Ex-Officio; Mark LeDoux, Chair, Board of Selectman.

T. Dufresne called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

## BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

### *Board of Selectmen – Peter Band*

The revised Agricultural Land Easement for the Howe Fields was drafted by Town Staff and Town Attorney William Drescher, and sent to the Owner's Attorney today with a response due within 30 days. Selectman LeDoux stated that the Stefanowicz and Birch Hill transactions are progressing, with the Town being able to secure a bond for both properties at an interest rate of 2.14% over 10 years.

### *Planning Board – Cathy Hoffman*

A discussion ensued regarding a proposed ordinance change to Section XI, Overlay Zoning Districts, 6. Prohibited Uses in the Aquifer Protection Overlay Zone on the 2017 Town Ballot, which addresses changes to this paragraph based on DES newly adopted rules. (Difficult to understand tape at times due to multiple conversations occurring. CC) Consensus is that research will be done into matter, but HCC members may publicly state non-support of proposed ordinance change.

The Land Study Protection Group will be meeting on Monday, February 6, 2017; there was no Treasurer's Report available at meeting time.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### *Wild & Scenic Rivers*

T. Davies informed members of the efforts made by the Nashua River Watershed Association, Town of Brookline NH and Beaver Brook Association in an attempt to protect waterways in New Hampshire, including the Nissitissit River, which flows through Hollis. These organizations are attempting to have the Nissitissit River designated as a "Partnership Wild and Scenic River" under a Federal program. The Nissitissit River has approximately 3 miles of river frontage in the Hollis, while the majority of the river frontage is in Massachusetts. M. LeDoux stated that no "real" presentation has been made to the Board of Selectmen. While the frontage in Nashua is small compared to Brookline and Massachusetts, T. Davies stated that if Hollis does not participate, Brookline could be shut off from the protected area. Giving the river a Scenic River designation prevents additional construction along the river frontage as a protective measure as well as other protections. T. Dufresne did not think this designation would impact Hollis residents or ordinance, about 95% of the areas in Hollis are already protected. M. LeDoux stated he was supportive but did not want to further impede property owners' rights. P. Baker would like to research the program further, and will report back on his findings.

More information about the Wild & Scenic Rivers can be found at the Nashua River Watershed Association's page at <http://www.nashuariverwatershed.org/what-we-do/protect-water-and-land/wild-and-scenic-rivers.html>

## MINUTES

T. Dufresne motioned to approve the public minutes of January 18, 2017 as written, seconded by T. Davies. All members in favor, none opposed, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0-0.

The non-public minutes of January 18, 2017 were tabled until the next meeting so that revisions could be made.

## ADJOURNMENT

P. Baker motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by M. Post. All members in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Cain  
Staff