

HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

November 16, 2016

Approved December 7, 2016

Present: Thomas Davies, Cathy Hoffman, LeeAnn Wolff, Peter Baker, Mary Jeffery, Jonathan Bruneau, Laura Bianco, Peter Band-BOS Ex-Officio, Connie Cain-Staff.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by acting Chairperson T. Davies.

HOWE FIELDS CONSERVATION EASEMENT, MBLU 026-026 & 026-080, Ranger Road

As per the November 2, 2016 meeting, discussion on the Howe Fields continued. P. Baker noted that since the last meeting, progress has been made to clarify items. Town Atty. William Drescher requested that members of the HCC, LPSC, BOS, and Town Hall staff meet to discuss any outstanding issues. P. Baker will contact Kim Galipeau, Town Administrator, to schedule the date and time. T. Dufresne and L. Wolff will be attending for the HCC, and C. Cain as Town Hall staff.

It is anticipated that the final draft will be presented to the Board of Selectmen in December, although the property owner, Ian McSweeney of the Russell Foundation, and the NRCS may have additional changes.

BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Planning Board – Cathy Hoffman

At the last meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2016, the following items were addressed:

- 1.) Site Plan for proposed Storage Buildings, Proctor Hill Rd at the Hollis-Brookline boundary, MBLU 011-024, Island Time Realty LLC. Eric Mueller, Island Time Realty LLC member, presented the plan which includes plans to use permeable pavement. C. Hoffman stated that the site plan was very detailed, and the PB gave conditional approval to the plan.
- 2.) 1-Lot Subdivision Plan, 146 Broad St, MBLU 019-022, George & Stella Demetri. The owners presented a subdivision plan to create 1 rear lot from the original 8.9 acres. There is a house on the original lot which the owners are in the process of renovating. Mark Fougere, Town Planner, recently inspected the site and the house.
- 3.) Landscaping Plan, Lovejoy Lane, MBLU 014-037-001 et als, Flint Hill Real Estate Trust. Gary Woods, son of one of the Trustees, requested to amend the landscaping requirement which was part of the original subdivision approval. To date, the landscaping has not been done and the areas are now overgrown. The owners would like to leave these areas as is, and not implement the landscaping plan. The Planning Board will discuss further.

Joint Conservation-Agricultural Commissions Work Group – J. Bruneau & M. Jeffery

The site walk with Heather Foley of NHACC was held on November 4, 2016, and members were able to get a feel for the property, and a better overview of potential uses; discussion of these potential uses is continuing. Craig Birch and Tom Dufresne were also in attendance.

Treasurer's Report – Thom Davies

As of October 31, 2016, there was \$363,665.97 in the HCC account; \$10,000 of this is held in stewardship reserves, leaving an available balance of \$353,665.97.

At T. Davies' request, C. Cain provided an estimate of LUCT funds that the HCC should receive at the beginning of 2017, which was calculated to be \$98,265 +/- . C. Cain clarified that the LUCT split received by the HCC is based on LUCT payments actually received by the end of the year. There are a number of LUCT payments issued but not yet been paid, so the amount may increase dependent on payments received.

As of meeting time, there were no pertinent updates from both the Board of Selectmen and the Land Protection Study Committee.

NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS

L. Wolff attended the annual NH Association of Conservation Commissions conference in Pembroke NH on November 12, 2016. The Keynote Speaker addressed biodiversity; and also attended a workshop on the riparian areas of the Merrimack River which was presented by Chris Kane.

L. Wolff was able to speak with the Moose Grant Director on the Invasive Species Grant program, and also met Sherry Dutzy of the Nashua Conservation Commission, who invited HCC members to a site walk on December 3, 2016 on a property of mutual interest.

L. Wolff has also been in touch with Erin White of the Hollis-Brookline Middle School regarding the construction of a greenhouse at the school. Funds are currently being raised, and L. Wolff has arranged a meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2016 to find out more information. T. Davies would also like to discuss recycling efforts at the Middle School, and assist in initiating recycling programs if needed. As with the HBHS Green Group, the HCC could provide insight, assistance, and possibly funds towards these programs.

C. Hoffman asked if any information on the greenhouse use was available, no yet, but it will be part of the discussion on November 22th. In reviewing management plans on file, several have recommended various plantings; one cost estimate given was \$500 to \$1000 for the plantings. If the HCC could receive a commitment from the school to grow the recommended plantings, it could lead to a reduced cost but also provide funds to assist with the continued viability of the HBMS project. P. Band felt that the Energy Committee may also be involved with the greenhouse construction. After the November 22 meeting, if appropriate, L. Wolff felt that Ms. White should be invited to address the HCC at an upcoming meeting.

P. Baker asked if anything further had been found out about the boardwalk over Muddy Brook near the Stefanowicz property on private property; this had been discovered earlier in the year as part of the property investigations. C. Cain was not aware of any recent activity but will communicate his concerns to Tom Dufresne and ask for an update.

MINUTES

L. Wolff motioned to approve the minutes of November 2, 2016 as written, seconded by C. Hoffman. All members in favor, none opposed, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

L. Wolff motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by C. Hoffman. All members in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Cain
Staff