

# HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

October 19, 2016

Approved November 2, 2016

Present:

Regular Members: Tom Dufresne, Thomas Davies, LeeAnn Wolff, Cathy Hoffman, Mark Post.

Alternate Members: Peter Baker, Jonathan Bruneau, Laura Bianco.

Guests: Allie Campbell, HBHS Green Group

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

## NEW BUSINESS

### *Hollis-Brookline Green Group – Allie Campbell, Student President*

A. Campbell stated that recycling started last year at the high school; there were about 5 Green Group members that collected the recyclables. This year there are 30+ members participating along with teacher advisors. All classrooms have at least one storage bin sized receptacle. Sorting is a big problem; there is one paper-only receptacle and one single-stream receptacle; the Green Group is working to try to resolve these issues, and hopes to work to educate both students and staff over the school year. Last year the school paid for several tall cardboard recycling bins, which did not stand up to the use. "Keep NH Beautiful" has clear plastic bins for cans and bottles for sale, and they are working on obtaining the funds to purchase several of these.

At the beginning of the school year, the School Administration had stated that recycling could no longer occur, however, over the past several months, the message has been changed to paper only, then paper and single stream. There are a lot of mixed messages being sent by the administration. The Green Group feel that the confusion, along with education about recycling, could best be addressed via a school assembly, and are working with School Administration to schedule this. T. Davies asked if the HCC can assist the Green Group towards this goal, and speak to the School Administration or Boards on behalf of the group. T. Davies also suggested speaking with Joanie Cudworth of the Hollis Transfer Station, as she is very interested in speaking to the students. She may be able to provide information on economic benefits of recycling as well.

A. Campbell noted that if the Green Group becomes defunct, the recycling program would probably end as well. Ongoing membership will be an issue; Maryann Rotelli is the staff advisor for the group. J. Bruneau asked if there was a history of recycling at the school; L. Wolff felt that Mrs. Rotelli would be able to provide some additional insight.

T. Dufresne asked how the HCC can help with these efforts, A. Campbell responded that the cost of the recycling bins is about \$440; the Green Group raised \$230 at Old Home Days, which is about \$210 short. Any additional funds that can be raised would go towards recycling education, such as posters, etc. T. Davies motioned to donate \$250.00 to the HBHS Green Group towards the cost of the recycling bins and educational materials; L. Wolff seconded. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 8-0-0. T. Dufresne asked that A. Campbell send a formal request to the HCC, via T. Davies, so the funds can be allocated through the proper methods.

P. Baker suggested appointing a HCC liaison to the Green Group to help with recycling or other issues that may come up. HCC members also suggested that Joan Cudworth would also be valuable liaison; A. Campbell stated that she is working with Mrs. Cudworth on another matter and would speak to her; T. Davies will as well. L. Wolff volunteered to assist the Green Group with poster design and printing. T. Davies will be the HCC contact for the time being. The Green Group meets every other Wednesday at the end of the school day for about 30 minutes.

Members commended A. Campbell for her initiative and determination on getting the recycling program reactivated, and thanked her for her continuing efforts. If the HCC can assist the Green Group in any way, they should feel free to ask at any time.

(A. Campbell left the meeting at 7:20 pm.)

### *Amherst Conservation Commission request for Map Layer Funding*

Daryl D'Angelo of the Amherst Conservation Commission had sent an email to area Conservation Commissions about adding the NH Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) map layer to the online NRPC maps. There would be a one-time fee of \$500 for this map addition, and he was enquiring if any of the area Conservation Commissions would be willing to contribute towards the cost, as it will be available to use by the public. C. Hoffman noted that this layer would show

wildlife habitats, and other associated information. After discussion, consensus was that members would be in favor of contributing towards the cost; T. Dufresne will get more information on the cost and what the map layers will detail so that the HCC may vote appropriately at the next meeting.

## **BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### *Joint Conservation & Agricultural Commission Work Group – Mark Post*

The last meeting was on Wednesday, October 12, 2016. Heather Foley of NRCS will tentatively be conducting a site walk on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm on the Stefanowicz Farm. D. Harmon will be conducting the owner. T. Dufresne can be in attendance if necessary. Craig Birch was also invited on the site walk. The draft lease is being created, and will be available as part of the bidding package when complete. (A lot of sidebar conversations off and on during this portion of the meeting, so I could not hear everything. CC)

### *Planning Board – Cathy Hoffman*

Prior to the Planning Board's (PB) October 18, 2016 meeting, the PB conducted a site walk on the Douglas Nye property on Witches Spring Rd; L. Bianco also attended. The plan previously submitted to the PB was conceptual, not an "as is" plan, so the contours were incorrect. The PB stated that separate as is and conceptual plans must be submitted. Tom Bayrd, DPW Director, was not in favor of filling up the culvert that runs under Ames Road, as proposed by the property owner; T. Bayrd requested that an engineer review the culvert and proposed plan. L. Bianco questioned the ability to build on the lot; discussion about the lot ensued. (Again, a lot of sidebar conversations were ongoing on this point, and I could not pick up everything. CC) The PB had a lot of questions about the lot, and has requested more information. Dennis LaBombard, Town Engineer, will also be reviewing, and the PB would like a wetlands scientist to review as well. The PB will require that a Dredge & Fill must be filled with the Department of Environmental Services, due to the possible wetlands issues.

As part of the plan review, it was determined that Hollis is part of the "Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems," under the MS-4, EPA Stormwater Rules. This lot is in the middle of the area documented for storm water control. This discovery has lead to additional review, and another culvert was discovered on the opposite side of Witches Spring Road which draining onto the lot in question. Review of the plan is ongoing, and the HCC will be updated as the review continues.

The Hollis Montessori School has submitted a motion for rehearing to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) for clarification of the 20 conditions, as per the ZBA decision made earlier this year. This will be heard by the ZBA on October 27, 2016.

### *Land Study Protection Group – Peter Baker*

P. Baker stated that Town Atty. William Drescher expects to have the final Howe Fields Conservation Easement draft to Town officials no later than October 28, 2016. Once this is received, T. Dufresne will forward to members for review and discussion. Scheduling of the HCC vote was discussed, it is anticipated that the HCC vote to expend funds will occur at the November 2, 2016 meeting, with the Public Hearing for the expenditure tentatively on November 30, 2016. If any issues arise during the review, this may push off the vote and/or Public Hearing.

There was no Board of Selectmen update in the absence of Peter Band; and no Treasurer's Report available at meeting time.

## **MINUTES**

T. Dufresne motioned to approve the minutes of October 5, 2016 as written, seconded by T. Davies. All members in favor, none opposed, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

M. Post motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by T. Dufresne. All members in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 8-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Cain  
Staff