

# HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

March 2, 2016

Approved March 16, 2016

Present: Tom Dufresne; David Connor; Thomas Davies; Cathy Hoffman; Peter Baker; Mark Post; Peter Band,  
BOS Ex-Officio; Connie Cain-Staff

Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman David Connor at 7:03 pm.

## BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

### *Board of Selectmen – Peter Band*

The Board of Selectmen are preparing for Town Meeting and presentations of the 3 properties under consideration by the Town voters. Voting methods, special interest groups input, and the 3 properties were discussed.

### *Planning Board – Cathy Hoffman*

There are no updates, but C. Hoffman reminded members that the proposed Zoning Ordinance changes, along with the question of changing to a SB2 form of Town Elections-Meeting, will be on the ballot during voting on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, and she encouraged members to vote on those matters.

### *Land Protection Study Committee – Peter Baker & Thom Davies*

The primary focus of the LPSC continues to be the 3 properties under consideration at Town Meeting.

### *Treasurer's Report – Thom Davies*

As of February 29, 2016, the HCC Account balance was \$370,445.41 +/-; T. Davies noted that the end number was cut off on the report. With \$10,000 in reserve for stewardship, this leaves an available balance of \$360,445.41.

## NON-PUBLIC SESSION

P. Baker motioned to go into Non-Public session to discuss a potential land acquisition, under RSA 91-A:3, II (d); seconded by T. Davies. All members in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried 5-0-0. The HCC entered Non-Public session at 7:48 pm.

T. Dufresne arrived at 8:15 pm.

## RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

D. Connor motioned to remove from Non-Public session; seconded by T. Davies. All members in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried 6-0-0. The HCC removed from Non-Public session at 8:21 pm.

## STEFANOWICZ FARM RECREATIONAL USES

T. Dufresne asked if the HCC would be opposed to allowing recreational and/or practice fields to be constructed on the Stefanowicz Farm property; he wished to get a sense of the members. T. Davies asked where the potential fields would be located and the size; T. Dufresne thought about 5 +/- acres total, to be located either above the house site or across the stone wall on the flat areas. P. Baker felt that, although he understood the Town's need for additional recreational parks/fields, he did not think that allowing anything other than passive recreation was appropriate when using Conservation funds; the HCC's purpose in pursuing this property was to preserve and conserve, and that the public conception is that is what would be done with the property. D. Connor understood P. Baker's concern in regards to preserving the property and only allowing passive use, but where the property is already an active farm and that use is expected to continue if the purchase is approved. He could foresee the possibility of using some of that area as a potential recreational area without it having a significant impact on the conservation of the property. D. Connor also felt that having a recreational area, such as practice fields, would additionally stimulate the passive uses of the property and make it a more known to the public. T. Davies felt that it would not take much to create practice field(s) in the flat areas, and suggested working with the Recreation Commission to create a partnership for those areas. The "fee simple" method of purchase gives the Town greater latitude in determining the best uses for each property, without considering outside influences. P. Baker opined that any use of the property beyond passive recreation should be defined prior to that use, both in scope and location; P. Band agreed.

Members agreed that limited Recreational use of the property for a recreation area or practice field could be allowed within certain areas, provided that the area and uses are established prior to any construction.

61 **INFORMATION HANDOUT**

62 T. Dufresne, D. Connor, and C. Hoffman have created a handout for the Stefanowicz Farm property for use at the  
63 Information Meetings and Town Meeting; members were given copies. P. Band asked members to check with Kim  
64 Galipeau, Town Administrator, before using, as the LPSC were given parameters and asked to use factual statements  
65 only on the Advocacy documents they wished to present at both meetings.  
66

67 Members agreed that "Vote Yes" icon to be removed; "Recommended by the Board of Selectmen" to be added; and  
68 some other minor wording changes be corrected. T. Dufresne will submit the document with these changes to the  
69 Town Administrator's office in the morning.  
70

71 **MINUTES**

72 C. Hoffman motioned to approve the public minutes of the February 17, 2016 meeting as written; seconded by T.  
73 Davies. All members in favor, M. Post abstained, no-one opposed, and the motion carried 4-0-1.  
74

75 **ADJOURNMENT**

76 T. Davies motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by C. Hoffman. All members in favor, none opposed, and the  
77 meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.  
78

79 Respectfully submitted,  
80 Connie Cain  
81 Staff