

HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

April 3, 2019

Approved April 17, 2019

Members Present: Tom Dufresne, Thomas Davies, Cathy Hoffman, LeeAnn Wolff, Mark Post, Jonathan Bruneau;
Alternate Members: Joe Connelly, Cheryl Quaine,
Staff: Connie Cain

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

PLANNING BOARD – Cathy Hoffman

There has not been a Planning Board (PB) meeting since the March 19th meeting, but they will be holding a site walk at 43 Farley Rd on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 9:00 am. Raisanen Homes Elite LLC has proposed a 4-lot subdivision on the property, with lot sizes ranging from 5.9 to 15.7 acres, due to wetlands in the rear of the lots. The main concerns at this time is how to preserve Rural Character, stump disposal and the 100 foot scenic road setback. J. Bruneau will attend the site walk on behalf of the HCC. Discussion ensued; suggestion to use the red “Wetlands Buffer” signs will be brought forward to the PB, and that road upgrades on Farley Road be considered as part of the development.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – Tom Dufresne

In the absence of Peter Band, T. Dufresne informed members that the Howe Fields Conservation Easement documentation is continuing. The Federal government deadline for submission is April 19, 2019.

There was no Treasurers Report available at meeting time.

NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS

Herbicide Application Class – T. Dufresne

T. Dufresne would like to attend an herbicide application class, consisting of two days, one in the spring and one in the fall, on the proper methods of applying herbicides. Completion of this class will give him the proper certification needed when using these chemicals in the field. Class cost is \$150 per day.

Motion made by J. Bruneau to allow the expenditure of up to \$350 for T. Dufresne to attend the herbicide application class as described; seconded by T. Davies. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion to expend funds was approved by a vote of 7-0-0.

Grant Programs

C, Quaine is in the process of reviewing the Moose Plate Grant application. L. Wolff volunteered to assist with the grant application process, and explained her previous experience with the grant. T. Dufresne has estimates on the amount of herbicide to be used/invasive plants to be removed from the Ludwig Siergiewicz Farm property, MBLU 046-051. Further discussion of grant requirements and necessary documentation occurred.

Saving Special Places 2019 Conference

This conference, sponsored by the UNH Coop Extension, is Saturday, April 6, 2019, at the Prospect Mountain High School, Alton NH, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Members interested in attending can register at the door on the event date. T. Dufresne and T. Davies will be attending on behalf of the HCC.

Conservation Community Support – T. Davies

T. Davies stated that he had been approached by Hollis resident, Gerry Gartner, in regards to the Pepperell, MA land fill site on the Nashua River. While Massachusetts has already approved the site use, T. Davies felt that this would be a good time to make sure that other local Conservation Commissions know that the HCC is available for support in their endeavors, and hopes that they would also support Hollis in theirs. He felt that it is not just a Hollis concern to protect and preserve water resources and habitats, but is local, national, and international and all communities should work together. While Massachusetts Conservation Commissions have more legal authority than their counterparts in New Hampshire, T. Davies would like to continue to meet with other local Commissions, such as Amherst, Bedford, and Nashua, to introduce Hollis members and continue to extend that outreach to other communities for the benefit of all. J. Connelly reminded members that he did attend Amherst CC meetings last fall, but was unable to clear his schedule to meet with Brookline. He can attend both CC meetings in those communities next week and will report back at the next meeting.

Brookdale Fruit Farm Site Plan – Jonathan Bruneau

J. Bruneau has completed his memo giving the HCC recommendations for the proposed changes to the buildings, wetlands, and ponds to the Planning Board on Brookdale Fruit Farm's site plan. The site plan was presented by Kevin Anderson, Engineer, at the March 20, 2019 HCC meeting. Members have reviewed and agreed with J. Bruneau's memo, including proposed plantings in the wetlands and pond areas. This memo will be sent to Kevin Anderson for Brookdale Fruit Farm and the Planning Board.

Worcester Mill parking area, Rocky Pond Rd – T. Dufresne

T. Dufresne will be speaking to Brandon Radcliffe of Beaver Brook Association about removing the trees for the parking area.

Motion made by T. Dufresne to allow the expenditure of up to \$1500 for the removal of trees to expand the parking area on the Worcester Mill property; seconded by L. Wolff. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion to expend funds was approved by a vote of 7-0-0.

ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP PLANNING – Saturday, May 4th

C. Quaine created the flyer for this year's event and also created a Facebook event for the date. She has also called the HBHS Honor Society, the Cub Scouts and Girls Scouts locals, and is awaiting further information on those groups participation this year.

It was noted that several years ago, local organizations were "challenged" to come out and participate in the event. This should be revived to encourage the community to be involved. T. Davies will ask Joan Cudworth, Transfer Station Lead, to order additional bags. T. Dufresne reminded members that the Board of Selectmen will need to provide approval for event sign placement. Members asked if the electronic sign from the Police Dept. could be utilized again; they will also be approached.

ANNUAL PROPERTY MONITORING

Chris Kane has completed his 2018 monitoring of the 5 properties required by State or Federal Grants, as follows:

1. Pearl Rideout properties, MBLU's 010-018 and 015-001, Rideout Road. Report indicates that invasive species should be addressed by hand-weeding as soon as possible. T. Dufresne suggested that the Boy Scouts might be able to work on this project, which should take about a day. Mainly at the Nashua River at the former log landing.
2. Gardner Conservation Easement, MBLU 042-073, South Merrimack Road. Report noted that there were a lot of invasive species found along roadside. Rare and/or endangered species noted on the property. With Mr. Gardner's passing last year, Society for the Protection of NH Forests has taken over control of property, with the final disposition of Mr. Gardner's estate and SPNHF plans for the properties still being considered, may need to be addressed at later date. Discussion followed about legal access to the property, with a site walk to be discussed at the next HCC meeting.
3. Hollis-Brookline High School Conservation Easement, MBLU 018-001, Cavalier Court and Main Street. Report indicates that easement requirements are still not being met, and possible encroachment of the high school on to the easement area. No water testing has been done as required.
4. Glover property, MBLU 043-034, Nevins Road. Outhouse on property to be removed by the Town still remains on property.

(M. Post arrived at 8:00 pm)

STEFANOWICZ FARM

M. Post had been in attendance at the Hollis Recreation Commission (RecCom) meeting. He stated that the RecCom discussed 3 possible recreational field locations:

1. Lower fields at Stefanowicz Farm. Placement in this location would put the parking area across from Fulchino's vineyards, but the playing area would cut off agricultural land from being accessed by farmers.
2. Area to the east of the Dept. of Public Works garage on Town owned land. Water access is an issue.
3. Another field at the Hollis-Brookline High School, closer to Love Lane. Again, water access is an issue.

Some discussion ensued. It is believed that the proposed turf field at the HBHS will not alleviate needs for increased fields.

MINUTES

T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the public minutes of the March 20, 2019 meeting as written; seconded by C. Hoffman. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

120 *T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the non-public minutes of the March 20, 2019 meeting as written;*
121 *seconded by L. Wolff. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by*
122 *a vote of 8-0-0.*
123

124 **ADJOURNMENT**

125 *T. Dufresne made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by T. Davies. All members voted in favor, none*
126 *opposed or abstained, and the motion carried by a vote of 8-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.*
127

128 Respectfully submitted,
129 Connie Cain
130 Staff