

HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Public Meeting

September 18, 2019

Approved October 2, 2019

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

Alternate Members: Laura Bianco, Joe Connelly, Cheryl Quaine

BOS Ex-Officio: Peter Band

Staff: Connie Cain

Also Present: James Plummer, Kat Morgan

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. T. Dufresne introduced James Plummer; Mr. Plummer is interested in joining the HCC, and has a background in engineering.

BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Board of Selectmen – Peter Band

The Recreation Commission has been working with the Board to find new recreational fields; at the last Board meeting, the Board authorized the Recreation Commission to expend funds investigating the proposed new field to the east of the DPW Offices. There are some topographical issues, but they are moving forward with the proposal. The Recreation Commission is also looking for a space for a remote-control aerial club. Several sites have been investigated, but none deemed satisfactory at the moment.

P. Band stated that he was approached at Old Home Days from residents of Worcester and North Pepperell Roads about a potential subdivision in that area.

Planning Board – Cathy Hoffman

At their September 17th meeting, the Planning Board (PB) agenda included the following items:

- 1.) Scenic Road Hearings for tree removal by both PSNH-Eversource and the Town DPW. The majority of the cuts will be done by PSNH, and the PB stipulated that tree and debris removal must be done in a timely manner.
- 2.) Seager Minor Subdivision on 43 Howe Lane, MBLU 032-045-005, to create one new house lot for the Seager's daughter. This was approved.
- 3.) Ground Mount Solar System for the HB Middle School at 25 Main St. The solar system will provide power for the school's greenhouse.
- 4.) Lot Line Relocation Plan for King, McCaffrey and Armstrong, North Pepperell & Pepperell Roads, MBLU 013-006, 013-007 & 013-008. The plan was a little confusing, but was approved.
- 5.) Site Plan for the Hollis Veterinarian Office, 11+11A Silver Lake Rd, MBLU 052-026. The owners wish to add to the existing structure, and have received Historic District approval. Because the lot is non-conforming, they will also need Zoning Board approval to move forward with this plan.

The PB also discussed amendments to the Workforce Housing ordinance as per Town Attorney.

HCC & Agricultural Commission Workgroup – Mark Post

The workgroup is continuing to develop the draft lease language for the multi-year Stefanowicz Farm agricultural lease; a presentation is planned to the Board of Selectmen in late October, and will also present to the HCC at the October 16th meeting.

There was no Treasurer's Report available at meeting time.

NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS

State of NH Request for Timber Access

Town Administrator Lori Radke received a letter from the State of NH in regards to a timber harvest they are planning for next year at Silver Lake State Park. They have requested from the Town to allow them to construct a temporary logging road over the southeasterly part of Woodmont West from the property boundary to Silver Lake Road. As this area is part of the agricultural lease of the property, several entities will need to approve this request and further information will be requested from the State. While this proposal would minimize the impact to the State Park, it does potentially have a larger impact to Woodmont West.

T. Dufresne would like to know who the logger is for the project. Topography in the proposed area is steep, with runoff and erosion already being an issue. T. Davies asked if any impact to wildlife or known pollution in Silver Lake is

mentioned; no, but any harvesting would have to be in done in accordance with Best Management Practices (BMP). P. Band felt that the Town should have oversight of the project, the Town should have authority to manage or direct the project if not done in accordance with BMP; it is the Town that will suffer the consequences if the property is not restored to the pre-harvest conditions. T. Dufresne noted that Nichols-Smith Land Trust has enforcement power over property, and they, and possibly others, will also have to approve. L. Bianco questioned the need for the timber harvest, and felt, based on the tone of the letter, that “public risk” was overstated. C. Quaine felt that strong wording was needed to ensure the property restoration is done to minimize any lasting damage to the Woodmont West property; this is not really addressed in the letter.

As various private and Town entities will need to be part of the approval, M. Post will address with the leaseholder; T. Dufresne will speak to both Jim Oehler and Craig Birch for their advice on the project. T. Dufresne stated that there may be some cost in requesting their assistance, and will inform the HCC after he speaks to them.

NHACC Conference, Pembroke Academy, November 2, 2019 – Tom Dufresne

T. Dufresne informed members that registration for the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission’s annual conference will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2019 from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, at the Pembroke Academy in Pembroke NH. T. Dufresne highly recommends that members, especially newer members, attend this conference if at all possible; early registration is open until October 19, 2019 at a reduced cost.

Stefanowicz Farm GIS Points

T. Dufresne received a bill from Randy Haight of Meridian Land Services of \$250.00 for the creation of the GIS points on the Stefanowicz Farm, as approved at the August 21, 2019 meeting, M. Post stated that Jonathan Bruneau has received the data, and is now able to work on the Stefanowicz Farm lease plan.

OLD HOME DAY WRAP-UP

T. Dufresne and T. Davies stated that the event was well attended, even with the rain. Good turnout especially in the later part of the afternoon. Lots of questions about the Ernest Hardy property recently purchased, trails in the area, with a lot of people expressing their support of the HCC efforts to protect, preserve and conserve land in Town. M. Post stated that at the Agricultural Commission booth, there were a lot of questions about Current Use. All agreed that having the HCC, the Agricultural Commission, and Beaver Brook Association’s booth close together worked well and they hope it will continue to be this way in upcoming years.

M. Post submitted receipts in the amount of \$127.90 for reimbursement for OHD supplies, as approved at the September 4, 2019 meeting for map prints and other associated materials.

(James Plummer and Kat Morgan left the meeting at 7:45 pm.)

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

T. Dufresne motioned to enter into Non-Public session to discuss potential land acquisition under RSA 91-A:3, II (d); seconded by T. Davies. T. Dufresne polled the members, all those present voted to enter into Non-Public session by a vote of 7-0-0. The HCC entered into Non-Public Session at 7:46 pm.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

T. Dufresne motioned to conclude the Non-Public session and to keep the minutes sealed until voted by the HCC to release, seconded by T. Davies. T. Dufresne polled the members, all members voted to conclude the Non-Public session and keep the minutes sealed by a vote of 7-0-0. The HCC concluded Non-Public Session at 8:10 pm.

MINUTES

T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the public minutes of the September 4, 2019 meeting as written; seconded by M. Post. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

T. Davies informed members that the Beaver Brook Association Fall Festival will be on Saturday, September 28th and Sunday, September 29th from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. There will be presentation on a variety of topics, animal demonstrations, and a petting zoo for children.

120 T. Dufresne informed members that the Hollis GOP will be holding the "James Belanger Day" at Fulchino Vineyard, 187
121 Pine Hill Rd at 9:00 am to thank Mr. Belanger to his many years of service to the State and Community, and to wish him
122 well in his retirement.
123

124 **ADJOURNMENT**

125 *T. Dufresne made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by M. Post. All members voted in favor, none opposed*
126 *or abstained, and the motion carried by a vote of 7-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.*
127

128 Respectfully submitted,
129 Connie Cain
130 Staff