

HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Public Meeting

March 4, 2020

Approved June 17, 2020

Regular Members: Tom Dufresne, Thomas Davies, LeeAnn Wolff, Mark Post, Jonathan Bruneau;
Alternate Members: Laura Bianco, Joe Connelly, Karen Bridgeo, James Plummer.
BOS Ex-Officio: Peter Band
Staff: Connie Cain
Attendees: Joseph Garruba

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Planning Board – Tom Dufresne

With the resignation of Cathy Hoffman from both the Planning Board and HCC, T. Dufresne has requested that the Planning Board assign a liaison to the HCC. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2020.

Treasurer's Report – Thom Davies

As of March 3, 2020, the HCC account balance was \$702,063.08. Accounting for the \$10,000 steward reserve, this leaves \$692,063.08 available as cash.

There were no Selectboard or Workgroup updates at meeting time.

ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP

The scheduled date is Saturday, April 18, 2020. T. Dufresne has the safety vests donated last year. T. Davies will speak to Joan Cudworth, Lead Transfer Station Attendant, in regards to obtaining blue bags and having the volunteer sign-in at the Transfer Station again. L. Wolff will update notices and post as appropriate. P. Band suggested speaking with the Police Dept. about using the electronic sign again; T. Davies will contact them as well as HBHS Groups. Updates to occur at the next meeting.

TOWN MEETING & BALLOTS

Town Meeting

At this year's Town Meeting, Saturday, March 14, 2020, the proposed subdivision of Stefanowicz Farm house lot is listed as Warrant Article 2. The recent property appraisal gives the value of the house and proposed lot as \$254,000. If the subdivision is not approved, the house will be demolished. A Request for Bid for the house demolition will need to go out if the subdivision is not approved, as the estimated cost to demolish is \$25,000-30,000.

Additionally, Warrant Articles 17 and 19 deal with target shooting on Town land, and are petition Warrant Articles. The Town Attorney has stated that these two articles may be non-binding. His opinion can be found at <https://www.hollisnh.org/budget-town-meeting> and he will also be at Town Meeting to answer any questions.

Town Elections & Zoning Ordinance Changes by ballot

On Tuesday, March 10, 2020, elections and balloting will occur at the Lawrence Barn. T. Dufresne noted that there is one proposed Zoning Ordinance Change recommended by the Planning Board, but a number of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance by Petition which were not recommended by the Planning Board. The full language of all amendments can be found at <https://www.hollisnh.org/town-clerk/pages/election-information>

NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS

Summer Internship

Helen Homola, a local resident, who is a Geospatial Science major at the Air Force Academy, has enquired to see if any opportunities would be available as an internship this summer. Discussion ensued, and it was felt that if the HCC did not have anything, the Trails Committee may. T. Dufresne will contact her for additional information.

T. Davies felt that it would be a good idea to come up with a project list, as the HCC does get these requests often, for Eagle Scout projects, summer volunteers, and others. Members will collate a list and discuss further.

Pitarys Land

T. Dufresne informed members that James Pitarys has decided not to donate his property to the HCC, but is working with his daughter and attorney on another method to permanently protect the property.

Woodmont East deed language

Sky Orchard Realty Trust, owner of the remaining Woodmont East house lots, has requested that the Planning Board remove the deed language requirement to future owners to notify them of potential arsenic contamination in the soil on the front two lots, as they state that the language requirement is affecting their ability to effectively market those lots.

Peter Baker, former HCC member, has submitted a letter to both the Planning Board and the HCC, stating his opposition to the request, due to the placement of arsenic laden soils from the Montessori School site to these lots. P. Band informed members that prior to the Town purchase of Woodmont West, on the opposite side of Silver Lake Road, significant investigation had been done as it was found that lead arsenate had been used extensively in orchards during the first half of the 1900's. After review of Mr. Baker's letter, and a letter from the NH Dept of Environmental Services to Sky Orchard Realty Trust, dated February 14, 2011, in which this was addressed, members felt that the deed language requirement should remain in force.

T. Davies motioned that the Hollis Conservation Commission draft and send a letter to the Planning Board stating that the Conservation Commission unanimously agrees that the deed language regarding potential arsenic on the two lots referenced should remain as a requirement in any deed transferring the property to new ownership; seconded by K. Bridgeo. All members in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the motion carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

T. Dufresne will draft a letter with this information, and send to members prior to submission to the Planning Board.

Annual Monitoring

Chris Kane has completed and submitted the 2019 Monitoring Reports for the Gardner, Glover and Rideout properties, and the HBHS easement. These will be discussed in detail at the March 18, 2020 meeting. Along with the reports, Mr. Kane has submitted an invoice for payment for the creation of the reports in the amount of \$1400.00.

T. Dufresne motioned to pay the invoice submitted by Chris Kane for the creation of the annual monitoring reports as described; seconded by J. Bruneau. All members in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the motion carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

C. Cain will pass invoice onto the Finance Office for payment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

J. Plummer informed members that the 2020 Wild & Scenic Film Festival is taking place on Friday, March 27, 2020 at the Red River Theater in Concord NH. Tickets are available online at <https://nhrivers.org/film-festival-2020/>

The annual "Saving Special Places" Conservation Conference will be on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at the Prospect Mountain High School in Alton NH. Registration and further information can be found at <https://savingspecialplaces.org/> The HCC will reimburse the registration costs for this event.

MINUTES

T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the minutes of the February 19, 2020 meeting as written; seconded by J. Bruneau. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the non-public minutes of the February 19, 2020 meeting as written and to keep them sealed until voted to release; seconded by J. Bruneau. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

T. Dufresne motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by L. Wolff. All members in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 9-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Cain
Staff