

# HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Public Meeting

December 2, 2020

Approved December 16, 2020

Regular Members: Tom Dufresne, LeeAnn Wolff, Thomas Davies, Jonathan Bruneau, Mark Post,  
Alternate Members: Karen Bridgeo (arrived 7:15 pm), James Plummer.  
BOS Ex-Officio: Peter Band  
Staff: Connie Cain

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 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 J. Bruneau. T. Dufresne polled the members, all those present voted to enter into Non-Public session by a vote of 6-0-0. The HCC entered into Non-Public Session at 7:03 pm.*

## RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

*J. Bruneau motioned to conclude the Non-Public session and to keep the minutes sealed until voted by the HCC to release, seconded by L. Wolff. 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 7:25 pm.*

## BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN – Peter Band

At the last meeting, there were not any items related to Conservation discussed. J. Bruneau asked if there was any update to the proposed Recreation field behind the DPW offices; P. Band stated that the property is still undergoing studies.

No Treasurer's Report or Planning Board update was available at meeting time.

## NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS

### *Expedited Minimum Impact Wetlands Permit Application*

Owner: Energy Vision Homes LLC, 244 Hayden Rd, MBLU 028-045-001

J. Bruneau and T. Dufresne conducted a site walk of the property with the owner, which a newly subdivided house lot near the former Kolinko house; with a portion of the new driveway in a small wetland area; T. Dufresne felt that the area appears to be a run-off area in a small wetland pocket of meadow land. T. Dufresne felt that there were no real issues, and a few suggestions have been passed on to the property owner, who is environmentally aware. Moving the driveway to another part of the lot would cause more impact to both this and the abutting property. Consensus of the HCC was to approve signature of the permit application.

### *Pennichuck Pond Public Access*

T. Dufresne has been in touch with NH Fish & Game about correcting their online map to indicate that the Homeowner's Association land does not have public access. The Conservation Officer is tied up with hunting season at the moment, but will reach out to T. Dufresne in the new year. P. Band asked if there was a public access easement; there is none. Photos taken of the area earlier this year show canoes and other equipment on the Homeowner Association property, they have reported they are not Association member's property and they are actively looking for the owners.

### *Forest Legacy Program*

L. Wolff introduced members to the Forest Legacy Program, which has grants available to all 50 states to protect forested properties against development. Normally, the program has about \$ 7 million available per state in grant funding, this year, they have \$20 million per State. The Nashua River Watershed Association would like to partner with both Hollis and Brookline to protect land in both communities. In order to qualify, any potential property would need to have 50+ acres of forested land, be in the Nashua River Watershed, and the application is due by the end of June 2021. If the grant is approved, the split is 75-25%, with the 25% matching funds coming from the Town. Properties chosen must have a management plan or similar document, along with other items. The Nashua River Watershed Association will assist with the grant writing process.

J. Bruneau felt that properties could be reviewed for any that meet the criteria, and be discussed at the next meeting. Any discussion of specific properties or owners should be held in non-public session, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (d). Members should be prepared to discuss further at the December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### *Moose Plate Grant*

T. Dufresne corrected information previously provided that the HCC was awarded a Moose Plate Grant in the amount of \$29,000; the grant funds are a 50-50 match, with the total of the proposal being \$29,000. The grant amount is for half, or \$14,500. The HCC will need to provide the matching amount. The Moose Plate Grant funds should be available Spring 2021, and are for invasive species mitigation at the Ludwig Siergiewicz Farm at the northern end of Mooar Hill Road.

#### *Future Meetings*

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, and with New Hampshire experiencing a second wave of infections, T. Dufresne asked members if they wanted to move to electronic meetings for the foreseeable future, in accordance with State regulations. After discussion, it was decided that moving to electronic meetings would be in the best interest of members. T. Dufresne as Chair, J. Plummer, and C. Cain will attend the meeting in the Community Room, with L. Wolff as back-up member. C. Cain will contact Dawn Desaulniers, IT Director, to arrange the set-up for the December 16, 2020 meeting. At the request of P. Band, a formal vote was taken.

*J. Bruneau motioned that the Hollis Conservation Commission meetings shall move to an electronic format for future meetings in keeping with NH guidelines for public meetings, beginning with the December 16, 2020 meeting, until such time that it be deemed unnecessary; seconded by T. Dufresne. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the motion carried by a vote of 7-0-0.*

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 1.) J. Bruneau, as a contributor to the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, has some extra newsletters if anyone is interest.
- 2.) M. Post, on behalf of the Hollis Women's Club, asked for volunteers for the Luminaria Event on December 12, 2020. Volunteers are needed to place the bagged lights in the center of Town. The event will be following COVID-19 protocols for social distancing. If you can volunteer, please let M. Post know. More information can be found at <http://www.hollisluminaria.org/>

#### **MINUTES**

*T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the public minutes of the November 18, 2020 meeting as written; seconded by L. Wolff. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0-0.*

*T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the non-public minutes of the November 18, 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 and kept sealed by a vote of 7-0-0.*

#### **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 7-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Cain

Staff