Hampton Conservation Commission August 23, 2011

Meeting called to order by Chairman Randy Thompson at 7:35 p.m. Also present: Wayne Kilpatrick, Marcia Kilpatrick, Penny Newberry, Joanne Freeman, Phoebe Huang, Everett Hyde, Linda Gorman, and Bob Johnson.

Minutes of July 28, 2011 were accepted, with abstentions by Joann and Everett Hyde.

Audience for citizens: none

Old Business:

Walks in Hampton Brochure: Bob introduced his sister-in-law to the Commission. XX is donating her services to create the graphic layout for the brochure. It is currently envisioned to be an 8 ½ X 14 inch layout, which folds into four panels. The cost of printing will be researched so that the Commission can determine at its next meeting whether the brochure will be a two color or a four-color print job along with the quantities to order.

The brochure should provide Hampton citizens and visitors with a good perspective on the outstanding nature trails available in the town and open to the public.

Gazette articles Marcia offered to write an article focused on the invasive plant of the month.

<u>Vadnais</u> (Edwards) property update: Two efforts to walk this property have now been canceled by the weather. Members of the commission are committed to individually survey the property before the next meeting.

<u>Invasive plant of the month --</u> -- Black Swallow (climbing milkweed) This invasive spreads aggressively via seed dispersion from the pods. The plant is harmful to Monarch butterflies, making it particularly noxious. It may also propagated by underground rhizome.

Loiselle Property: No response from the owner. This matter will be referred to Andy R. of the Connecticut Audubon.

New Business

After 15 years of dedicated service to the Conservation Commission, Joanne Freeman is stepping down. The Commission is grateful for all of her efforts, wishes her the best in her new endeavors, and is looking forward to visits from time to time.

New property list: Penny will be updating this list for the Commission.

Route 6 property purchase from State \$6,000 was appropriated from the town's Open Space budget without the knowledge of the Conservation Commission. The Commission had long been interested in protecting this land from development; and will look into obtaining a conservation easement on it.

Trailwoods: Penny relayed that volunteers are being sought for this event.

<u>Power lines</u> Information, as recent as two months, regarding the proposed new power lines is available at the Hampton Library.

Sprague is attempting to purchase a large tract of open space by creating a foundation and soliciting funds. This Is an approach that other Commissions might consider.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Submitted by Phoebe Huang, acting recording secretary